

Overtime ban set to end as NCB agrees on a 'review' of threat to pit

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Pit deputies' leaders look set to call for an end to their three-week overtime ban today in response to coal board 'clarification' of a peace deal and a gesture of 'good intent' over the planned closure of Horden Colliery in Co Durham.

The executive of the 16,000-member National Union of Colliery Overmen Deputies and Shottifiers is due to meet to assess four hours of talks at the National Coal Board's headquarters in London yesterday and to evaluate management's plan to impose an embargo on transfers and redundancies from Horden while the pit goes through the colliery review procedure.

Mr Peter McNestry, the union's general secretary, emerged from the discussion yesterday describing the changes as "useful and important", but attached considerable importance to the Horden announcement, which came later.

Nacods has insisted that all pits should be reviewed through the official mechanism and that while the process was under

way no personnel should be encouraged to leave for fear of making the closure a fait accompli.

The coal board yesterday pledged that only those applications for redundancy and transfer at Horden received up to May 31 would be processed. All others would be "frozen".

The board's gesture seems all the more conciliatory because not one of the unions had time to lodge an official objection to the planned closure after yesterday's announcement. Mr McNestry last week interpreted a letter from Mr Jimmy Cowan, board deputy chairman, to mean that all unions would have to protest before there would be an embargo on redundancies.

Yesterday's developments seemed to meet the union's objections, but it could be some days before the ban is called off. Mr McNestry has said that he would call for a re-bid of his members before stopping the action.

If Nacods decided to hold

another ballot, the executive looks set to recommend acceptance of the peace formula and the precedent set by Horden.

Few of the 12,000 men at Horden are thought to have applied to leave and only 12 have so far been transferred. The colliery, known as the wettest pit in Britain, lost £55 million in the five years before the miners' strike with £1.2 million a year paid in interest charges.

The deal would mean that the union has accepted that the old colliery review procedure should remain in force until the modified version, which averted a Nacods strike last October, has been set up.

The management estimates the cost of the overtime ban at about £4 million but the union puts the figure in excess of £24 million. Deputies have been refusing to oversee maintenance, safety and repair work at weekends, which has meant that production has been delayed on Monday mornings at some pits.

FA backing for club identity card move

By Clive White

The Football Association yesterday supported the Prime Minister's move for an identity-card system to combat football hooliganism, but thought that it would work only at club level and not nationwide.

Mr Ted Croker, secretary of the association, said that a nationwide scheme would have "an adverse effect" on football as a spectator sport.

The football authorities and clubs were convinced that a nationwide membership scheme would do little to solve the underlying problems manifested through hooliganism, he said. A meeting with the Football League and representatives of Manchester United, Arsenal, Chelsea, Leeds United and Millwall football clubs had endorsed the FA's views.

However, Mr Croker suggested that clubs introducing cards should standardize them to make possible an integrated system for certain matches.

There were already family and season ticket enclosures at many grounds and this trend would be bound to continue, Mr Croker said.

● Five more Liverpool supporters were remanded in custody for a month when they appeared before a court in Brussels yesterday, bringing to seven the number awaiting trial. None of the charges related to events in the Heysel Stadium last Wednesday.

● Swedish football clubs were going ahead with preparations to meet English clubs, among them Liverpool, for a series of friendly matches this summer, despite pressure to cancel them.

● Liverpool councillors and the city's two bishops will be in a civic delegation visiting Turin on June 17. It is hoped players from Everton and Liverpool clubs will also travel with the party.

● Soccer fans in Hungary, which strongly condemned last week's violence in Brussels, smashed two carriages on the Budapest metro at the weekend, Budapest Radio said yesterday.

● A scheme in Liverpool schools to teach youngsters how to be good football fans, was announced yesterday.

BBC post

Mr Peter Ibbotson, editor of the BBC's Panorama programme for the past two years, points out that, contrary to a report in *The Times* yesterday, he has never been offered the editorship of *The Money Programme* and that he has in fact been directly promoted to Assistant Head of Current Affairs, Television.

Poll sample

National Opinion Poll interviewed 888 adults in a representative sample by telephone over the last Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, for the survey published in *The Times* yesterday.

Duke dies

The Duke of Manchester died on Monday aged 56 at his Tennessee farm. The duke, who once flew friends from Kenya to London to witness his maiden speech in the House of Lords after he inherited the title in 1977 from his father, the tenth duke, is succeeded by his brother, Lord Angus Charles Drogo Montagu.

Anglers drown

A father and his son, aged 16, and their neighbour, were drowned in a deep hole on the river Deel, near their homes outside Crossmolina, Co Mayo, Irish Republic, on Monday.

Leaked files to be used in pay battle

By Philip Webster

Cabinet papers leaked by a former official at the Department of Employment are to be quoted by the opposition in the Commons tomorrow to back its claim that the Government has embarked on a deliberate policy of forcing down wage rises.

The documents, which cover parts of the period served as Secretary of State for Employment first by Mr James Prior and then Mr Norman Tebbit between 1980 and 1983, show changes in policy resisted by Mr Prior but set in motion by Mr Tebbit are now being implemented, according to Mr John Prescott, Labour's chief employment spokesman.

Opposition spokesmen will refer to the documents, copies of which have been seen by *The Times* and some of which were leaked during the last general election, during tomorrow's debate about the future of wages councils which set the minimum pay rates of about three million low-paid workers in various industries.

The Government is having consultations on the council's future. If they are not abolished outright they are thought likely by ministers to be considerably modified, most likely by the removal of young people and part-time workers from the scope of their awards.

The papers show that Mr Prior succeeded in Cabinet committee in November 1980 in arguing for the retention of the wages council system, although he was still asked to consider excluding young people and part-timers. He concluded that such a move would be unlikely to lead to more than a very marginal increase in job opportunities for those categories and they would largely be at the expense of full-time adult jobs.

30-year cliffhanger of third airport

By John Young

Stansted airport began life as a United States Air Force bomber base in the Second World War. After the war it was used as a commercial aerodrome and in 1953, when Gatwick was chosen for London's second airport after Heathrow, it was selected as a reserve.

It is owned by the British Airports Authority, the main mover for its development, and is officially designated London Airport - Stansted. It handles charter flights and a few scheduled services, with a present capacity of about two million passengers a year.

In 1964, after a report by an interdepartmental committee which said a third airport would be needed by the early 1970s, Stansted was chosen. But the subsequent public inquiry recommended that development should be permitted only if it could be shown to be in the public interest.

The Roskill Commission was then established to examine six possible sites, including Stansted.

The choice eventually fell on a site on Maplin Sands, on the outermost edge of the Thames Estuary, which, although the most expensive, was held to be the least environmentally damaging. A development authority was set up in 1973, but was disbanded almost as soon as the Labour Govern-

ment took power the next year, on the ground that the new, wide-bodied jet aircraft made the project unnecessary.

But in 1978 a White Paper stated that further capacity would have to be found by 1990, and the new Conservative Government in 1979 invited the airports authority to produce plans to expand Stansted.

The inquiry into those plans began in September 1981, lasted 258 days and is estimated to have cost about £10 million.

As well as investigating the case for and against Stansted, the inquiry was charged with examining the practicality and likely effect of a fifth terminal at Heathrow, but a suggestion by the Council for the Protection of Rural England that the Maplin possibility should also be reopened at the inquiry, at first accepted, was later withdrawn.

An opposition group of county and district councils was formed but last December the report of the inquiry inspector, Mr Graham Eyre, QC, concluded that, while regional airports should be expanded, they could not meet the extra traffic demands in the South-east.

A fifth terminal at Heathrow, taking capacity up to 53 million passengers by 1995, should be approved.

Stansted 'not worth expanding'

If Stansted airport was an independent private company its shareholders would be unlikely to judge it commercially worthwhile greatly to expand capacity in the near future, according to a new study of the economics of London's airports from the Institute of Fiscal Studies.

The report says that traffic revenues at Stansted fail to cover the costs of staff, maintenance and bought-in services by a large margin and are probably below even the short-run marginal costs of running the airport.

The study argues that the three London airports owned by the British Airports Authority should be privatized separately so that they could compete, doing away with the alternate over and undercharging. That system allows the authority to subsidize some of its activities such as air traffic services with other excessively profitable ones, such as airport catering and retailing.

If Stansted's users had to cover the costs of expansion, predictions of increasing demand, on which expansion plans are based, might not stand up.

Privatizing London's Airports by David Surkie and David Thompson (Institute of Fiscal Studies, 180/182 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LQ).

Alliance-Labour link urged

By Philip Webster

The former Labour Housing Minister and the MP for Brent East, Mr Reg Fresson yesterday urged his party to establish links with the Alliance in a move to realign the Left and defeat the Tories at the next general election.

Mr Fresson, who has been

replaced by Mr Ken Livingstone as his local party's candidate in a reselection round in which he did not take part, called for negotiations now.

"If we do not do so before the next election we will certainly have to do so afterwards if we are ever to succeed in government and as a movement again," he said.

Mr Fresson's remarks, delivered to the Oxford University Political Society, came as the latest MORI opinion poll indicated a striking surge in Alliance support.

He said that realignment was necessary to overcome "the most extreme right-wing government we have seen in Britain this century."

Teachers get bad mark from inspectors

By Lucy Hodges

Teachers' marking of pupils' work is often disappointing, according to the Schools Inspectorate (HMI) in a paper published yesterday on what makes a good teacher.

Although marking was an essential part of a teacher's job, reports from schools inspectors refer to "haphazard, casual, inconsistent, negative, censorious and counter-productive" marking.

Other comments from reports include, "marking consists solely of ticks and overall scores", "errors pass unchallenged", "a tendency to praise as very good, work which contains serious faults", and marking "serves no diagnostic purpose nor offers encouragement or positive guidance to pupils".

These comments come from *Education Observed 3: Good Teachers*, one of the periodic reviews by schools inspectors reports on schools. The review concentrates on the characteristics of the good teacher.

The good teacher needs a calm attitude and the ability to be firm, the review says. He or she needs to be able to create a climate of purpose, interest and mutual respect.

Primary school reports from the inspectorate emphasize the good effect on motivation and discipline when pupils are encouraged to act in a responsible way, to show due concern for others and a positive attitude to their work.

Good Teachers, Department of Education and Science 1985, free from DES Publications Centre, Canons Park, Honeypot Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 1AZ.

Blocked Iran deal forces Talbot to pay off 1,150

By Clifford Webb

Motoring Correspondent Talbot, the United Kingdom subsidiary of Peugeot, has run into more trouble with its £130 million-a-year contract to export car parts to Iran and is laying off 1,150 of the 2,200 employees at its Stoke engine plant near Coventry.

It is its third lay-off since last autumn. Workers were recalled only five weeks ago after a two-months' shutdown. Iran's failure to furnish acceptable letters of credit is the longstanding difficulty. A compromise barter deal agreed two months ago called for payment in oil.

Krupp Oil of West Germany was to ship the oil from Iran and sell it for Talbot. However, the price of Iranian oil has fallen sharply since then and Krupp is refusing to handle oil which it cannot sell profitably.

Talbot has not shipped any kits since November. More than 30,000 are stockpiled at Coventry and on the docks.

The troubles at Coventry contrast with growing optimism at the neighbouring Ryton assembly plant which is being equipped at a cost of £20 million to produce the C28, a medium-sized hatchback which will replace the Talbot Horizon early next year.

There is growing speculation that it will be sold as a Peugeot and the Talbot name dropped entirely.

● The first code of practice for manufacturers of kit cars has split the rapid rise of the home-built car business less than a week after it was announced. Two of the biggest firms, Dutton and Eagle, are refusing to recognize the code because it could lead to the closure of smaller manufacturers.

Second Sinn Féin man is elected council chairman

A second Provisional Sinn Féin councillor was elected chairman of a Northern Ireland local council yesterday as elsewhere in the province violence erupted between Unionists and nationalists in a council chamber.

Within hours of US Paul Corrigan being elected chairman of Fermanagh council, with the support of Social Democratic and Labour Party councillors, the Government said ministers would continue to visit councils even where the political wing of the Provisional IRA was in control.

Mr Christopher Patten, Under Secretary of State for the province, said: "I recognize the council, but I am not going to give the normal courtesies to somebody endorsing violence."

Mr Corrigan's election was the result of an agreement between Sinn Féin and the SDLP in Fermanagh, and went through relatively quietly on a 13 to 10 vote after four SDLP councillors refused to accept nomination as chairman.

But in Magherafelt, Co Londonderry, tensions were high on a council with an 8 to 7 nationalist majority which voted for an SDLP chairman and Sinn Féin vice-chairman Mr Louis McBride, the brother of a Provisional IRA man shot dead by the SAS in Kesh, Co Fermanagh, last December.

The very presence of Sinn Féin councillors on 17 of the province's 26 local councils, rather than anything they say or do, has been enough to provoke a furious reaction from Unionist and Official Unionist parties aimed at ostracizing the supporters of the IRA.

Tactically, Sinn Féin is intent on allowing Unionists to appear as unreasonable, raucous and abusive in their attempts to deny fellow councillors elected rights. If the councils become unworkable and the Government is forced to send in commissioners, the party will argue that that is further proof that Northern Ireland has failed as an entity.

● Living conditions in many isolated border and rural police stations in Northern Ireland were condemned as poor and shoddy last night by the chairman of the province's police federation, Mr Alan Wright.

Corrections

On January 3, Mr Gerald MacLochlainn of St John's Way, London N19, was described as a "convicted IRA terrorist". While he was a Provisional Sinn Féin organizer, he was convicted for conspiracy to cause casualties but "IRA terrorism" was not alleged or proved.

The catering boxes supplied during Alan Hamilton's return flight from the Falklands (report May 28) were supplied by the RAF at Stanley airfield, not by the Naafi.

The winners and the losers in a reshaped social security system

Tory U-turn on benefits as right

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government through its plan for a new social fund has a large extent reversed its key 1980 policy decision to pay supplementary benefit as a right, that is as a legal entitlement rather than a form of discretionary state charity.

The fund, whose precise size and scope is still far from clear, will make payments for a wide range of items from furniture and cookers, to bedding, house repairs, moving home, funeral expenses, and the new maternity grant among others.

In many cases, however, the payments will not be grants as at present, but loans, repayable by weekly deductions from benefit. The payments will also be discretionary, not a right. In addition the fund's budget will be fixed, each Department of Health and Social Security region is likely to be given a cash limit.

The 1980 change, making such single payment and urgent needs payments a right, meant in the words of Mr Patrick Jenkin, then Secretary of State for Social Services, that entitlement was "set out fully and precisely for the first time and with the force of law".

The previous discretionary system was unmanageable, he said, and the new legal regulations would let "claimants and the public know where they stand".

It allowed claimants to maximize their benefits within the rules as they had clear legal entitlements.

Mr Chris Smith, of the homeless charity Char, said the return to discretion represented a return to the poor box, and the National Association of

Citizens Advice Bureaux said it was "a step backwards offering arbitrary and limited handouts". Expertise built up by advice bureaux and charities on people's entitlement will no longer apply as there will be no legal rules on the payments, and voluntary organizations said they feared that the adoption of cash limit could mean money running out.

They also fear it will mean a return to the kind of "secret" guidance to DHSS staff on the rules for applying discretion that existed before 1980. However, the DHSS said yesterday it expected the guidelines to be published.

The Green Paper on the Social Security review argues that the single payments rules are a "labyrinth" involving more than 1,000 lines of law, and that the new income support levels should cover regular weekly needs.

"It should be for the claimant to decide how that money is spent."

The proposal is clearly aimed at controlling the rapid growth of single payments that have increased from \$80,000 in 1981 to almost three million last year. The Government's critics say that is evidence that supplementary benefit levels are set too low. The costs have risen from £44 million in 1981 to £220 million last year.

Along with the return to a discretionary system will be the dismantling of the right of appeal on single payments to tribunals and ultimately the courts, with appeals against decision by the new specialist officers appointed by local management.

Change forced in Serps plan

By Sarah Hogg

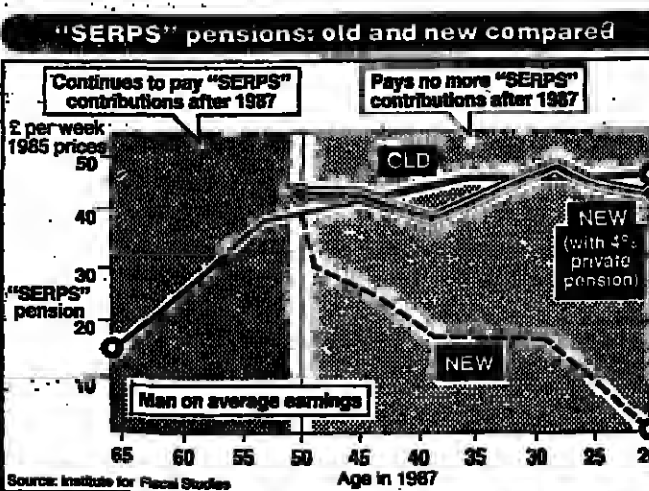
The Government was forced to alter the plan for phasing out the state earnings-related pension scheme (Serps) to prevent too many of the over-50s being thrown on to the new system of income-tested benefits, it emerged in analysis of the Fowler review yesterday.

That meant that generous transitional arrangements had to be added for those aged 40 who are getting pension bonuses unpaid for by contributions, to prevent them doing markedly less well than older people.

The chart, based on calculations by the Institute for Fiscal Studies, shows how the Government is attempting to "smooth out" the abolition of Serps. By 1987, no one will have earned more than nine-twentieths of a full earnings-related pension from his or her contributions, since it takes 20 years to build up and the scheme started only in 1978.

At today's prices, that would amount to only about £16 a week for a man on average earnings. This would be too little to bring pensioners above the ceiling for income-related benefits if their housing costs were more than about £12 a week in today's money, while people in their 50s would have had difficulty in building up much of a private pension before retirement.

That is why the plan was adjusted to allow men over 50 and women over 45 to remain in Serps, and continue paying contributions. But to prevent a sharp difference in the pension rights of those just above and below the cut-off point, it was agreed to give men between 40



Pension Contributions (%)	
Pre-Fowler	Post-Fowler
(a) Contracted-in to Serps	
Employers-Nat Ins	10.45
Comp scheme	9.00
Employers-Nat Ins	6.85
Comp scheme	2.00
Total	19.45
(b) Contracted-out of Serps	
Employers-Nat Ins	9.25
Comp scheme	9.00
Employers-Nat Ins	11.00
Comp scheme	6.85
Total	26.20
Minimum contributions	31.50

Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies

contribute 2 per cent to a private pension scheme, with employers contributing the same (the minimum required under the Fowler scheme), they will be able to build up roughly the same pension as they would have had from Serps, although their total contributions will have to rise.

But further doubts have risen over the position of people now contracted out of Serps into full company schemes. As the table shows, they and their employers contribute far more than the minimum that will be required.

Since the national insurance contributions will rise, companies may be tempted to scale down existing company schemes to save money, thus reducing the pensions members of existing schemes can expect.

Nor is it clear whether the state will continue to help to provide price protection for these schemes, as it has hitherto.

Women pay highest price

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Women are likely to be among the biggest losers in the Government's plans to reshape the social security system.

The abolition of the state earnings-related pension scheme will remove from them the advantage of a pension based on the best 20 years' earnings, allowing time off for children or other breaks in employment without loss of entitlement.

The inheritance rules, which allowed a woman her husband's full Serps pension as well as her own, will also go, although new rules compelling life offices to provide women with annuities on the same terms as men will offset somewhat those losses.

The introduction of Family Credit, paid through the pay packet rather than by DHSS giro, is likely also to transfer cash from the purse to the pay packet. At present, women form the majority of claimants

for Family Income Supplement, the benefit Family Credit is to replace.

Although the new Family Premium for those now on supplementary benefit will be payable to whichever partner is the claimant, hints in the Green Paper that child benefit will no longer be fully updated in line with inflation mean that women again will lose.

At present child benefit is paid to the mother, even when she is on supplementary benefit, and deducted from total benefit entitlement. A fall in its real value would reduce the mother's real income.

The ending of the £25 maternity grant as a universal benefit, and its restriction, at a higher rate of about £75, to those on income support and Family Credit, will mean that hundreds of thousands of mothers will lose that, admittedly small, sum.

The ending of the £30 death

grant, to be replaced by an effective means-tested payment through the social fund, refundable if the estate is large enough or if the person arranging the funeral can afford it, will also affect women because they tend to live longer than their husbands.

Women's benefits will be affected, too, by a tighter test of recent work for payment of maternity allowance, worth £27.75 a week.

Changes in widow's benefits will have some detrimental effects. Childless widows are likely to be about £300 worse off from a £1,000 lump sum replacing the 25 weeks of widow's allowance, worth £50.10 a week, unless it is made tax-free.

The widowed mother's personal allowance, paid for three years when the mother has children aged 16 to 19 classed as non-dependent, is to be scrapped.

Falling in line with Europe

By Sarah Hogg

possible to earn a larger state pension by delaying retirement for up to five years. The present scheme permits an increase of 7½ per cent in the basic pension for every year retirement is delayed.

However, when the Government abolishes the "earnings rule", under which pensioners earning more than £70 a week find their pensions reduced, there will be less incentive to delay retirement. The Fowler review suggests that some other limitation will have to be introduced.

The review comes down firmly against a straightforward reduction in the retirement age,

as introduced in France in 1983.

RETIREMENT AGES

Equal for Men and Women

Canada	65
Denmark	67
France	60
Germany W	65
Netherlands	65
New Zealand	60
Sweden	65
United States	67½

Different for Men and Women

Australia	Men 60	Women 60
Belgium	65	60
Switzerland	65	62
United Kingdom	65	60

Lowered from 65 in 1983
* Being raised to this level by 2025

Police 'ready to act again' as peace campsite numbers rise

Lord Cardigan, who has given temporary sanctuary on his land to members of the Stonehenge "peace convoy", said yesterday that more arrived than their days were numbered.

He issued a warning that police were increasingly unhappy at the growing numbers and could act soon.

Lord Cardigan gave permission for the battered remnants of the hippie convoy involved in the battle with police at the weekend to camp on his land at Savernake Forest near Marlborough, Wiltshire.

Permission was granted by the earl, aged 32, who himself witnessed the clashes between police and the peace community on Saturday, to allow the travellers to be reunited with their families and vehicles.

But unofficial estimates at the campsite yesterday put the numbers at between 300 and 500 and the earl said: "I have been telling them on the hour and every hour that the end is nigh."

The time he had allowed the convoy was now "breaking down" in view of the increasing numbers coming on site, he said.

Police were becoming increasingly unhappy at the growing numbers, and if they acted he would be "powerless" to stop them.

The earl was speaking shortly before meeting a senior Forestry Commission official at the picnic site where the hippies are encamped.

As they met in a low wooden building, yards from the campsite, a police helicopter circled overhead, flying low over the woodland which contained about 50 small vehicles and 40 buses and large trucks, among a struggle of multi-coloured makeshift tents.

The commission leases the forest area from the Savernake Estate, which is managed by the earl for his father, the Marquess of Ailesbury, a stockbroker.

More than 200 people from the convoy were arrested when police clashed on Saturday with members intent on taking part in the banned free festival at Stonehenge.

Many of those arrested had now appeared at special courts sitting in Wiltshire, Avon and Hampshire and many have returned to the forest camp site.

Cashless shopping starts in October

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Barclaycard is planning a pilot cashless shopping scheme later this year in an area close to Northampton.

Shoppers will be able to pay for goods using Barclaycard credit cards and possibly Access cards. The cards will be run through cash shop's electronic terminal which will read the magnetic strip on the card and then debit the customer's credit account.

The Barclaycard scheme is outlined in the latest issue of *Retail Banker International*, National Westminster and Midland Bank are also believed to be preparing pilot schemes.

There is speculation that the Barclaycard scheme, expected to start in October, could centre on Milton Keynes.

The Committee of London Clearing Bankers denied that Barclaycard was breaking ranks and said the pilot scheme would eventually form part of the nationwide system.

Earlier this year the banks and credit card companies announced plans for £300 million nationwide cashless shopping system. Retailers are now enthusiastic about the project.

The Committee of London Clearing Bankers is expected to make further announcements about cashless shopping or electronic funds transfer at the point of sale (EFT/POS) within the next few weeks.

Pop star sues over songs

Elton John, the pop musician, asked a High Court judge yesterday for a larger share of the £200 million earned by his early hit records.

Mr John, aged 37, and his songwriter partner, Bernie Taupin, aged 34, are suing the music publisher, Dick James, who they allege took advantage of them as young unknowns.

The judge was told that publishing, recording, and management agreements were signed in 1967 and 1968 when Mr John was aged 20 and Mr Taupin aged 17. The two musicians claim the contracts were unduly onerous.

The hearing continues today.

Tax rebel loses court plea

Mr Richard Hayter, yesterday lost a Court of Appeal attempt to withhold that part of his income tax which is spent on nuclear weapons.

Mr Hayter, aged 65, a widower who farms at Kester, near Charnford, Dartmoor, argues that nuclear weapons are illegal under international law and their use amounts to a war crime.

But Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Nourse, said Mr Hayter, a soldier in the Royal Artillery throughout the Second World War, had no defence in withholding any part of his taxes.

There is no direct connection between taxation and expenditure," the judge said. The court dismissed Mr Hayter's appeal against a decision of



Mr Hayter: "War crime" complaint.

Exeter Crown Court rejecting his claim.

The court then began hearing an appeal by two Quaker women raising a similar point.

Beryl Hibbs and Maizie Birmingham, representing the standing executive committee of the Society of Friends, lost their appeal against a City of London Court ruling in January that the society had no right to withhold £2,745 pay-as-you-earn tax due from 33 members of staff at its central office.

Microchip giants fail to beat sales slump

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

The announcement that the American electronics giant National Semiconductor is to cut its work force in the next three months at its Greenock plant in Scotland by one third, 450 jobs, is a reminder that even multinationals with vast resources can feel the effects of the retreating computer market.

The company is one of the world's principal suppliers of microchips to the computer industry.

The semiconductor industry has been struggling to maintain the growth achieved two years ago in microchip production.

In March National Semiconductor felt obliged to publicly justify the instabilities in the microchip business after an unprecedented drop in the sales of microchips in Europe and the United States at the beginning of the year.

Mr Donald P. Beadle, vice-president and managing director of National Semiconductor's division in Europe, explained the problem to the industry and its employees.

He told them that the computer boom in 1984-85 and the optimistic sales projections of the computer manufacturers had led the semiconductor suppliers to be equally bullish. But that optimism was unfounded and the computer sales slumped, relative to sales prediction, and that in turn hit

Japan plans big rise in electronics production

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Japanese electronics companies are planning to continue a rapid rise in production and exports during the next two years to a total output of £100 billion in 1987, a level that will intensify the clamour for measures to reduce Japan's world trade surplus.

Industry predictions are that while the big growth of the early 1980s is slowing, exports from Japan of products ranging from video recorders and hi-fi equipment to microchips and robots will increase by 10 per cent a year.

There are also clear indications that Japanese electronics companies are engaged

Appeals against court restrictions considered

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, is studying ways in which a court decision to postpone or prohibit reporting of its proceedings could be challenged by review or appeal.

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, told the Media Society yesterday: "I realize the strength of feeling there is in your profession for there to be some proper procedure for review of these orders."

"I consider that this is a legitimate concern on your part and the Lord Chancellor is at present giving serious consideration to avenues of review or appeal from these orders."

In two recent cases the Press was forbidden to publish the names of people even though they had been referred to in



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Sterling Ronscraft



Rare arrivals: Five young barn owls ringed yesterday at the GLC's Park Lodge Farm, Harefield, ready for release in a few days in the London area. It is 10 years since the breed was last sighted in the capital and the GLC co-operated with the Wildlife Hospital Trust in providing a breeding habitat in a barn, a freezer for storing the birds' food and a keeper to give it to them. (Photograph by John Voos).

Satellite TV makers criticized

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A dispute over the slow introduction of direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS) sharpened yesterday when Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, criticized some equipment manufacturers for creating "frustrating uncertainty".

The manufacturers have been pressing for the British DBS consortium, led by the BBC and including independent television companies, to produce concrete proposals on systems so that work on complementary equipment, particularly dish receivers, can go ahead.

Mr Young pointed out that without adequate equipment in the market no system would succeed. Some makers may have wasted opportunities.

Those involved with DBS were concerned at the difficulty of getting any commitment on equipment and whether it would be available at the right price and time.

Mr Young added: "This history of uncertainty has been extremely frustrating."

North's second heart transplant

The North of England's second heart transplant patient, an unnamed father of three, aged 47, from Killingworth, north of Newcastle upon Tyne, was in a "satisfactory condition" after the operation at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle early yesterday.

Mr Christopher McGregor, leader of the surgical team, had earlier driven the donor heart — from a Yorkshireman — to the hospital with a police escort.

Plutonium may travel by air

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

retary of State for Scotland, has decided "to call in" the application so that he can make a decision on the £200 million project. He wants the implications of the project examined at a public inquiry and has asked the regional council for supporting documents.

The proposal is for a reprocessing plant for recovering the plutonium from material which will be generated when Demonstration Fast Breeder Reactors (DFBRs) come into operation in France, West Germany, and possibly Britain.

The first of the DFBR nuclear systems, called the Superphoenix Fast Breeder, providing energy for a 1200 megawatt power station at Crey-Malville, near Lyon, will go critical at the end of the year.

The first prosecution of the British nuclear energy industry is made today when British Nuclear Fuels faces six charges brought by the Crown alleging contravention of the licence to operate the nuclear reprocessing site at Sellafield (formerly Windscale), in Cumbria. It is also alleged to have contravened the authorized limits set for the discharge of radioactive wastes.

The case relates to an incident in November 1983, when there was an accidental discharge of solvent into the Irish Sea.

Film companies accused of ruining video dealer

Thirty-five big film and record companies were accused in the High Court in London yesterday of "ruining" a small video dealer who had helped them in their fight against video pirates.

Mr John Beveridge, QC, told Mr Justice Scott that the companies, including Columbia Pictures, United Artists, Walt Disney Productions, and Charisma Records, had wrongly obtained court orders against video dealer Mr Christopher Robinson, of Laton, Bedfordshire.

In 1982 lawyers with court orders had raided his shop in Laton and seized videos, equipment and business papers. Legal action had dragged on for three years.

Mr Robinson, aged 34, of Enderby Road, Laton, is seeking damages for alleged financial loss as a result of the legal moves against him. He claims that, despite allegations that he was a video pirate, the raid uncovered no such evidence.

In a parallel action, the companies are seeking permanent injunctions and damages.

Opening the case, Mr Beveridge said that each time he bought stock Mr Robinson was careful to "cut out" any pirate or counterfeit videos.

In 1981 he bought the rights to copy 30 films from a Dutch company. Soon afterwards he was visited by an investigator from the Motion Picture Association of America, and agreed to help to track down pirates.

Then in 1982 the film and record companies obtained High Court orders against him.

The judge adjourned the case until tomorrow.

Drug chained to banana boat, jury told

From Tim Jones Cardiff

The British end of an international drugs smuggling operation went wrong when two men dived beneath a ship in Cardiff docks on a cold night in a gale, Cardiff Crown Court was told yesterday.

One of the men, Peter MacDonald-Jones, aged 34, of Reading, died as he tried to recover the drugs suspended from a chain beneath a banana boat which was unloading cargo.

His body was not discovered until two months after his dive in March 1983. His colleague, James Timothy, aged 32, of Lorne Street, Reading, pleaded not guilty to smuggling drugs.

Mr Roger Thomas, for the prosecution, alleged that the men, wearing diving suits and equipment with oxygen cylinders, dived into the dark to recover a large quantity of drugs.

Direct mail threat to Post Office

Publishers of free newspapers want to use their nationwide delivery network to handle direct mail in competition with the Post Office.

The scheme by the Association of Free Newspapers could be launched by next April and reach 15 million households. The plan is for a co-operative to be formed to organize the present delivery network and bid for contracts for handling promotional literature.

A Post Office spokesman said yesterday: "They are free to go ahead. We cannot stop them. This would not infringe our monopoly."

Whitelaw backs a new local radio authority

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Lord Whitelaw, the former Home Secretary, came out in favour of a local radio authority yesterday, suggesting that it should replace the BBC and commercial networks.

In the annual Independent Broadcasting Authority Robert Fraser Lecture, Lord Whitelaw asked: "Is there really a place for two local radio stations side by side in some places, particularly at a time when advertising revenues are limited?"

If the BBC's scope of operation and method of financing was to be questioned, there would be a case for a new authority and a new approach, he added.

The support of Lord Whitelaw for a new look at local radio comes some weeks before the Government is expected to announce the formation of a few experimental community radio stations, and amid continuing concern about the viability of commercial radio stations now in business.

Lord Whitelaw said that community radio could be an exciting medium.

"But its development must be orderly and will need to be sensitively managed. I suggest that all these factors points at least to careful consideration of a separate local radio authority."

Lord Whitelaw said that during his time as Home Secretary he was frequently regarded by Mrs Mary Whitehouse as being too complacent about the level of sex and violence on the screen.

"I could not go along with all their strictures, but I do admire their persistence, which does seem to me to be of value."

Reduction in France in 1985

RETIRED AGES

Full for Men and Women

Widows

and

England

from 65 in 1985

and to 67 in 2005

Why social security figures cannot be given

BENEFIT REVIEW

Challenged by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, to put some figures on the previous day's social security review announcements, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during Commons question time that the Government was waiting for May's retail price index figure before setting this year's uprating of pensions and other benefits.

The Government could hardly decide figures for two years hence before deciding this year's, she added. They were not yet prepared to put figures to particular benefits for the good reasons that they believed in sound finance. That comment drew loud laughter from the Opposition.

Mr Kinnock argued that with all the to-ing and fro-ing of postponed Cabinet meetings and the wrangling that took place, nobody could be expected to accept what she said. He wondered whether Mrs Thatcher was trying to hide the outcome or whether she was ashamed of her own proposals, innumerate or simply mendacious.

Mr Gareth Worsell (Gower, Lab) first raised the social security review and asked: Since one of the aims of the social security review is to simplify the system, why will not the Prime Minister establish a legal minimum wage and retain wage councils, rather than subsidize employers through the new family credit scheme?

Mrs Thatcher: There is already a consultative document on the future of wage councils. That has still to be decided, and evidence shows that if you set a legal minimum wage it tends to lead to increasing unemployment.

Mr Neil Kinnock: Why is the social security proposals published by the Secretary of State are there absolutely no figures for the amounts that the unemployed, the sick and disabled, pensioners and

Mr Kinnock: I think he drafted that question before he heard my reply. Even the Labour Government determined the uprating annually, on a forecast basis, and it is on a historical cost basis.

We in fact uprate each year and we like to know precisely what the figures are before we decide what the uprating shall be.

Mr Kinnock: Absolutely nobody, with the celebrated to-ing and fro-ing, postponed Cabinet meetings and the wrangling that took place, can be reasonably expected to accept what the Prime Minister says.

It is not the fact that she is trying to hide what the outcome will be that she is even ashamed of her own proposals? Can she give us figures? Is she afraid, innumerate or simply mendacious?

Mrs Thatcher: No, factual. There has been an annual up-rating of social security benefits for many years. That is a fact. It is only because she is capable of ignoring the facts. He cannot then be expected to believe anything else.

Mr Robert MacLennan (Brentwood and Ongar, C): Should we draw any conclusions from Mr Kinnock's long tirade being prepared to leave social security matters to Mr Michael Mawhood?

Mrs Thatcher: I am not sure whether that is an improvement or otherwise.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party: Will she confirm one aspect of the proposals? Is it the case that elderly people on low incomes living in purpose-built housing will in future find themselves losing part of their rate rebates and, unless they are on supplementary benefit, losing their housing benefit as well?

If so, this means that many elderly people will not be able to afford to go on living in accommodation which successive governments have encouraged to be specially built for them.

Mrs Thatcher: In the Green Paper, it is intended everyone shall be

expected to pay some contribution towards rates save, possibly, those on supplementary benefit.

I think it is right everyone should be expected to make a contribution towards rates so we do not have the situation where those who make no contribution at all can demand enormous increases in local authority expenditure at the expense of other people.

Sir Ian Gilmour (Chesham and Amersham, C): Why suggest everyone should have to make a contribution to rates when we understand rates are going to be abolished? (Laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher: He will have heard that referred to in the statement yesterday, if he in fact heard it. In the meantime there are rates and we will have to see what will happen if we bring forward legislation to change the rating system.

Mr Arsky Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L): In the Rowe report on housing benefit, Mr Jeremy Rowe talks about detailed analysis available to him. Why has the Government not made that available to the House?

If she does not put some arithmetic flesh on to the bones of the structure, she will be accused of wanting to stymie discussion or, even worse, be accused of political cowardice.

Mrs Thatcher: No, this is a Green Paper and he will find many figures already there on a number of things. But too many to have been absorbed in the short time in which the paper has been out.

We are not prepared yet to put figures for particular benefits because we believe in sound finance. (Labour laughter.) Yes, it was the Labour Government which the Liberals supported which did not believe in sound finance. It was a Labour Government that took us to the IMF.

We believe in sound finance and we shall wait until we are nearer the time to determine the uprating. It is the Labour Party which believes in spend, spend, spend and putting the



Loyden: Vicious attack on poorest people

not yet decided on the upratings which are due to take place in November. It is therefore not yet

Peers vote to keep option of corporal punishment at school

EDUCATION

The Education (Corporal Punishment) Bill was not terribly important but that was not a reason for the House to collude at allowing a very foolish measure to reach the statute book unopposed. Lady David, speaking for the Opposition, said at the start of the committee stage in the Lords.

Moving an amendment to ensure that corporal punishment was abolished throughout the state and independent sectors in England and Wales and speaking to a number of related amendments, she said the Opposition was aiming at radical changes to the Bill which would make it an adequate response to the ruling of the European Court and forward thinking in the educational world.

Corporal punishment was degrading, counter-productive and anti-educational. It was not a deterrent. The same children got beaten repeatedly and often for the same offences. It passed on the message that violence was an acceptable solution to problems. The opt out scheme was unfair, discriminatory and would create resentment and worsen discipline.

The United Kingdom was alone in Europe in permitting school corporal punishment. All informed educational thinking and policy was against this Bill.

Lord Alexander of Potterhill (Ind) said he had doubts about the increasing tendency, so he was concerned with human rights as to create a society so permissive that it led to the kind of scenes witnessed in Brussels last week. Presumably the basic argument was that the possibility of violence in the home produced fear in children and the assumption was that fear was a bad thing.

Fear was an essential element in human society. They should be careful not to create a situation in which they gave children human rights and abolished parents' human rights.

Lord Stewart of Fathom (Lab) said he was sorry that the Brussels tragedy had been mentioned in connection with this debate. Since it had been brought in it was necessary to point out one very simple fact. It was the unhappy truth that England had a worse reputation for football hooliganism than any other

Falklands costs defended by minister

DEFENCE

When the new airfield on the Falkland Islands becomes fully operational early next year, there will be no need to limit the frequency of military or civil flights, Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said during question time in the Commons.

The information was given during exchanges in which Labour MPs suggested that money was being wasted on defending the indefensible and that it would have been better to offer every Falkland Islander substantial sums to leave, spending the balance on providing employment for British unemployed workers.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Denton and Reddish, Lab) had asked for an estimate of the cost per Falkland Islander of defence expenditure in connection with the islands for each of the next five years.

Mr Stanley replied that the provision in the defence budget for Falklands costs was equivalent to £288,000 per Falkland Islander in 1985-86; £234,000 in 1986-87 and £156,000 in 1987-88. Funding thereafter would be determined in future public expenditure surveys.

Mr Bennett: For that money, many Falklanders would have preferred a much smaller sum to move elsewhere. Why is it so important to give this sum of money to people in the Falklands to maintain their traditional role in the area, rather

than to maintain traditions in this country of full employment?

The same sort of sums, spent in areas of extremely high unemployment would be far better spent to protect traditions in this country, then being wasted in the Falklands.

Mr Stanley: Those who have visited the Falkland Islands are struck by the determination of those who live there to go on living in that part of the world, under the British way of life.

I do not regard it as in any way a waste of money, or misuse, more than 200 British people lost their lives in recovering the Falklands and it would be unacceptable to most British people not to take steps to retain them.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath, C) said that the Falklands had shown that one Nato member was prepared to be able to back diplomacy with the use of force.

Mr Stanley replied that it had been a good indicator from the United Kingdom, that a Nato member had shown its determination to protect the interests of British people wherever they were and to ensure that British territory was not subject to invasion in any part of the world.

Mr Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne, North, Lab): Thousands in the north of England will be outraged at Mr Stanley's answer that it costs £200,000 a head a year to keep the Falkland Islands in the Falkland Islands when we have regions like the Northern Region where young people have been forced to go to the South-East and

Skinner ridicules Liberal PR proposal

VOTING SYSTEM

A Liberal attempt to bring in a Bill to provide for the single transferable vote system of proportional representation for all local government elections was defeated in the Commons yesterday, 198 votes to 29 - majority against 159.

Opposing the Bill, Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) said he wanted to establish quite clearly that there was massive majority in the House against this barmy idea.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Moseley Hill, L) said the Bill would allow PR to be tested at a level at which it was most clearly needed. It brought back to local government, democracy, representativeness and accountability.

Rigid agendas denial of democratic debate and the appointment of council officers on the basis of their political views was happening in councils like Liverpool where majority parties were grossly over-represented.

In Liverpool in 1984, some 90,000 voters supported Labour and 100,000 voted against them. Yet there was an administration with a majority of 15 on that city council.

The Bill was not aimed at any party. It was not trying to stop parties winning absolute control of local councils but it would stop them achieving such power if their electorate did not agree with them.

Mr Skinner said he and some of his colleagues were getting more than a little tired of hearing Liberal spokesmen talking about PR and transferable votes.

I think he said to laughter they want PR in local government because there is such a row going on between Liberals and the Social Democrats that they want the

Labour criticizes choice of Granada cars

MOD CARS

The choice of the Ford Granada for ministers and senior civil servants at the Ministry of Defence was criticized during Commons questions.

Why, asked Mr David Davies, chief Opposition spokesman on Defence and Disarmament, were top brass being driven around in what he understood was substantially a West German made car when almost every other department, including the Foreign Office, used British made cars.

Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said that at the time the Ford Granadas were chosen they were considered the best value for money. But he added that when, in two years' time, there was a model change, the Ministry would be considering other contenders for the role.

"Cheerful", suggested a voice from the Labour benches.

Search for the best package of conditions

ALLOWANCES

Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, stoutly defended in the Commons the revised allowances paid to servicemen serving abroad after MPs predicted the reduction in the local overseas allowance would lead to many key personnel leaving.

He said Defence Ministers were continually looking at ways of giving the best possible package of conditions of service.

I am certainly very much aware (he added) of the disappointment felt in Germany at the outcome of the overseas allowance review. But this is not pay, it is in addition to pay, to compensate those overseas.

It is an important principle for servicemen that when they are posted overseas they are not going to suffer a major reduction in income as having to bear the increased cost.

Appeal for state help

FOOTBALL

The resentment felt by many people in Bradford from the inquiry by Mr Justice Popplewell into the fire at the Valley Parade football ground, which killed 23 people, has been intensified by the further link with the incident in Brussels, Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab) said during Commons questions to the Prime Minister.

He went on: Will she instruct Mr Justice Popplewell to complete his inquiry into the Bradford fire disaster with all urgency?

When she is going to announce what money her Government is

Minister outlines changes in training arrangements

WALES

Policies must be reshaped to stem the swelling exodus of the ablest and most ambitious from rural communities in Wales and enable them to remain there throughout their lives, Mr Bryn Iwan, chief of the Opposition spokesman on agriculture, said when opening a Commons debate on the issue.

He moved an Opposition motion noting with alarm the Government's complacency in the face of deteriorating economic and social conditions in rural communities. It urged a change in policies by improving transport, other services and employment opportunities which would reverse the declining population in rural areas.

Mr John said that in the past five years 41 primary schools had closed in rural Wales and unemployment in some parts was 18 per cent.

The fiasco of milk quotas had meant ruin for some, hardship for many and uncertainty for everyone in agriculture. The Ministry had fallen almost six months behind in the payment of allowances because of the chaos caused by the quotas.

He did not want country villages and small towns to be transformed into dormitory towns for the affluent young who worked some distance away and into retirement havens for the affluent elderly. More resources must be devoted to education, jobs and health to maintain communities and to retain the culture of these areas.

Mr John Stradling Thomas, Minister of State for Wales, moved a Government amendment which recognized the difficulties faced by the farming industry and rural communities in a period of change but welcomed the reversal of the long period of depopulation in much of rural Wales.

He said dairy producers would welcome the outcome of the common agricultural policy negotiations. A 1½ per cent increase in support prices was accompanied by a 1 per cent fall in co-responsibility levy payable in 1985-86.

Despite problems, dairy farmers were adjusting production patterns to the quota.

The infrastructure was being developed: a wider range of industrial and service employment was being created, while agriculture would continue its central contribution to the way of life and work.

Most rural communities, far from being under threat, could look forward to a future in which the prospect was not of migration but of increasing opportunities and a better quality of life in the rural areas.

Mr Geraint Howells (Ceredigion and North Pembroke, L) said one of the Government's worst thought-out measures this session was the Transport Bill. Privatization of the bus network would do untold damage in Wales.

At the moment they had an efficient service connecting sparsely populated areas with villages and towns, this would be destroyed if the Bill was enacted. So-called uneconomic routes would be ignored in the fight for long distance or town routes.

The Opposition motion was rejected by 267 votes to 160 - Government majority, 107, and the Government amendment was agreed.

Press Council chief condemns bullying of journalists

Attempts to bully editors and journalists into omitting or printing material against their will are condemned by Sir Patrick Neill, the former chairman of the Press Council, in its annual report for 1982-83 published today.

Sir Patrick, the council's chairman until September 1983, says in the report's foreword that censorship pressures and improper coercion went far beyond predictable efforts by government ministers to "get a good press".

He describes all attempts to bully editors, or to punish them for publication, as "inherently wrong", and adds: "This is true whoever the bully may be - government department, wealthy proprietor, local authority, or powerful corporation with largesses and favours to bestow, workers with industrial muscle."

Sir Patrick gives several examples in recent years of attempts to push journalists into saying what they did not think or omitting what they believed to be true, which have been taken to the Press Council.

The Isle of Man *Weekly Times* editor was dismissed

left free to decide what he will publish and what he will omit".

A separate article in the report on the Monopolies Commission's effectiveness in tackling press ownership over the past 19 years applauds the resistance of *The Observer's* national directors to attempts by Mr "Tiny" Rowland, its proprietor, to challenge the editor's editorial independence.

Mr Donald Trefford clashed with Mr Rowland over articles critical of Zimbabwe army atrocities. Mr Rowland, with large African interests through Lorbho, challenged Mr Trefford's independence, but was "met stoutly" by the paper's national directors, the report says.

Whatever the eventual outcome, the incident proved that the system of national directors can be useful, provided that the change of ownership has been vetted by the Monopolies Commission, and that the journalists and outside directors realize that the price of liberty is eternal vigilance."

The Press and the People, 29th/30th report of the Press Council, 1 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8AE. 24.50, 66p postage.

Inspector's report favours park

Conservationists are claiming an historic victory over a government inspector's recommendation that the A34 road in Hampshire should be routed around Highclere Park, the home of the earls of Carnarvon.

Save Britain's Heritage and the Highclere Park action group took the Government to the High Court to force it to hold a public inquiry into a plan which would have rerouted the road across the entrance and carriage drive to the park.

The inspector, Sir Michael Giddings, has recommended a route proposed as one of two options by Save and the Garden History Society, 70 yards from where it was planned.

The park dates from the thirteenth century and was later redesigned in part by Capability Brown.

Mr Jennifer Freeman, secretary of the Victorian Society and a leading campaigner against the proposed Mansion House Square scheme for the City of London, rejected by the Government two weeks ago, has resigned.

Talks to improve medical co-operation in disasters

World experts began talks yesterday to improve medical co-operation in dealing with disasters, including earthquakes, floods, plane crashes and terrorist attacks.

Recent disasters have included the tidal wave catastrophe in Bangladesh, the chemical leak at Bhopal, India, which killed more than 2,000 and injured more than 200,000, the Bradford City Football Club blaze, and last week's riots at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels.

The fourth world congress on emergency and disaster medicine was opened in Brighton by Princess Anne, who hurried by car from her home in Gloucestershire after her helicopter flight was cancelled at the last minute because of storm warnings.

The Princess told delegates: "It is sad to ponder how much of your expertise has been gained from man-made disasters. Medicine can cross all international boundaries and indeed it must if we are to be able to offer the most effective help to the victims of such events."

The conference being held next door to the Grand Hotel, which was largely demolished

Royal welcome for pupils

The Queen has launched a scheme to teach children about the countryside by showing them how her 20,000-acre estate at Sandringham, Norfolk, is run.

By tonight, 4,000 pupils from more than 100 Norfolk schools will have been shown the workings of the estate, which operates as a commercial concern.

The children visited a series of exhibitions during a two-hour tour. They saw oak trees

Doctor saves from t in G

Applied Research

20m exp

Timetable fixed for sweeping programme of Unesco reforms

From Diana Geddes, Paris

An important milestone in the crisis afflicting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) was reached last night with the adoption by the organization's executive board in Paris of a precise and detailed timetable for the implementation of more than 100 previously agreed reforms.

Introducing the debate on the proposed timetable, drafted by the 13-member Temporary Committee of the executive board, Mr Ivo Margam, the Yugoslav delegate and chairman of the committee, commented: "Never before in the history of Unesco have so many reforms been initiated in so short a time."

Britain, which has said that it will follow the example of the United States and withdraw from the organization by the end of the year unless adequate reforms are introduced, as been one of the leading lights over past year in pressing for comprehensive and speedy changes and, together with France, it was responsible for setting up the Temporary Committee.

It will obviously be pleased to see the committee's report adopted, but has already indi-

cated that those reforms alone, even if fully implemented, are unlikely to be sufficient to make it change its mind about leaving. Many other battles still have to be fought and won, namely on the question of how and on what Unesco's money is spent.

The organization's 50-member executive board is due to begin discussions today on a draft programme and budget for the next two-year financial period, 1986-87. The Western nations have already won agreement that the budget should be reduced in proportion to the loss of revenue from the US, whose contribution represented a quarter of Unesco's total budget. But it will be much more difficult to reach agreement on where the consequent cuts should fall.

Britain and most other Western nations want the cuts to fall selectively, and for a clear list of priorities of Unesco's programmes and activities to be drawn up.

Instead of the hoped-for movement toward consensus among members during the past three-and-a-half weeks of the board's current marathon session, there seems to have been a hardening of positions and a greater politicization

Shias press for an end to the 'dirty war'

Beirut (Reuters) - The Shia Muslim leader, Mr Nabih Berri, yesterday urged an end to what he called "this dirty war" between his Amal militia and Palestinian refugee camps placed under Lebanese control.

"What is wanted is that this dirty war should end," Mr Berri said. "But it should end on the basis that Lebanon has sovereignty, that Palestinian security and there is no difference between Palestinians and Lebanese on Lebanese territory."

Syrian efforts to mediate a solution to the battle for the Sabra, Chatila and Bouj el-Barajneh camps, now in its third week, have stumbled over Amal's demand that the camps be disarmed.

"No one can convince me that the weapons in the camps in Beirut are there to fight Israel - never," Mr Berri said.

Palestinian officials say the arms are for self-defence and will be surrendered if all Lebanese militias disarm, but the Amal leader, who is also the Justice Minister, hinted that this was a distant prospect.

"When agreement is reached on a just legal authority, all sides will hand in their weapons," he said.

More than 500 people have been killed and 2,000 wounded in the prolonged assault on the camps and in shelling of nearby



Nabih Berri: insists on Lebanese control of Palestinian camps in Beirut

Shi areas by Palestinians in Druze-held hills above Beirut. Mr Berri warned that the failure of his Druze militia allies to stop the bombardments would have "very serious repercussions which we are now trying to avert".

Line reopened: For the first time in five weeks the green line, which divides Christian east from Muslim west Beirut, was opened yesterday and about 100 people dashed across the devastated no man's land (Richard Dowden writes).

Gandhi sets limits to Tamil self-rule

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

In a wide-ranging conversation with correspondents on the eve of his departure for a five-nation tour of Western countries, the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, yesterday gave more details of his talks with the Sri Lankan President, Mr J. R. Jayewardene, on the ethnic crisis in the island republic.

He also took the opportunity to deny any intention that India should develop its own atomic weapons in response to Pakistan's nuclear development.

Mr Gandhi said India could help Sri Lanka by drawing up a framework for the Sri Lankans to discuss a political solution to their crisis. "We have offered to do that," he said, adding that there was basic agreement between the two leaders on all points that came up in the discussions.

Mr Gandhi was plainly referring to the kind of framework Indian envoys drew up which became the agenda for

last year's all-party talks. "If they are able to get together, a solution is possible," Mr Gandhi said.

Mr Gandhi also announced in terms that India would not support the separation of a Tamil state in the north and east of Sri Lanka. He went further: "We will not allow an independent Eelam. There is no way that we will support a federal structure either. The maximum we can talk about is what is available to states in India."

Declaring that India was not in favour of any kind of physical intervention in Sri Lanka, Mr Gandhi added: "If the democratically elected Government of Sri Lanka asks us to give help, we will give them help."

Mr Gandhi also let slip that India was planning to buy Exocet missiles from France to counter the sea-skimming missiles that the US has supplied to Pakistan.

Zhao invites Britain to help rebuild China

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister of China, invited British bankers and "entrepreneurs" at a City luncheon yesterday, to help China cope with its large-scale economic reconstruction.

His Government would welcome British investment and the establishment of British

factories, he told the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Alan Traill, and a rich selection of bankers and entrepreneurs at the Mansion House.

Last year's Hong Kong agreement had opened up new prospects for Sino-British co-operation.

CIA link in Contra aid dropped by Reagan

Washington - President Reagan has dropped his insistence that any renewed funds allocated to the Nicaraguan Contras should be distributed through the Central Intelligence Agency (Christopher Thomas writes). That removes one of the biggest obstacles to persuading Congress to resume non-military aid to the guerrillas.

Administration officials said Mr Reagan would agree to the money being distributed through the State Department, or possibly the Agency for International Development. The Senate and the House of Representatives are tentatively scheduled to vote on the renewal of funds today and tomorrow.

The final Democrat proposal in the House provides for the provision of food, clothing, transportation and medical aid to the Contras and their families. Senate Republicans have drawn up a plan giving non-military aid to the "Nicaraguan democratic resistance."

New appeal for Bangladesh

Geneva, (AP) - The League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies issued an appeal for an additional 1.6m Swiss Francs (£500,000) to aid victims of the Bangladesh hurricane and tidal wave. This comes on top of the initial call for 4.4m francs.

The new funds will be used to increase to 200,000 from 120,000 the number of victims receiving food and clothing from the Bangladesh Red Cross. But distribution of aid to the islands cut off by the storm remains difficult.

Press arrests in Nepal

Katmandu (APF) - Police over the past two weeks have arrested at least 13 Nepalese journalists, including seven newspaper editors and publishers. Twelve others are being sought.

An official source said those arrested had been charged with backing a civil disobedience movement launched by outlawed pro-democratic and pro-leftist factions in the past fortnight.

Neo-Nazi jailed

Dortmund - Siegfried Borchardt, aged 31, known as "Siggy", the leader of a neo-Nazi gang of football hooligans who terrorized Turkish immigrants at the time of a match in Dortmund in 1983, was jailed for a year by a court here. The prosecutor asked for eight months. Youths in the public seats shouted: "Siggy Heil, Siggy."

Jet 'buzzed'

Athens (AP) - A Turkish jetfighter buzzed an Olympic Airways Boeing 737 on a domestic flight over the Aegean on Monday, forcing the pilot to alter course to avoid a collision, Greece complained.

Whale savers

Sydney (Reuters) - Several Australian coastal towns are being given special kits, including shovels and stretchers, to help save stranded whales, dolphins, seals and turtles.

Correction

An omission from a report on June 3 ("Lisbon coalition faces 'inevitable' collapse") left the erroneous impression that the former Portuguese Prime Minister, Dr Francisco Sa Carneiro, is still alive.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

At the end of the Bonn economic summit a month ago the frustration of American ministers and officials was evident. They had gone there determined to get agreement on a new round of international trade negotiations in 1986, and they had been denied by the French. Without such an undertaking, they had argued, they would lack the necessary instrument to ward off the forces of protectionism in the US.

So I was eager to discover in Washington last week just how strongly the protectionist tide was running and what the Administration's trade policy was now. Would it just wait for a possible change of heart by the French after the National Assembly elections next spring? Would there be a new American diplomatic initiative to mobilize international support in the meantime? Or would the Administration just give in to the protectionist pressures if they were strong enough?

That the sentiment for protection is strong cannot be doubted. It focuses particularly on Japanese trade practices, but this resentment spills over into more general objections to foreign imports. Yet the pressures are not all in one direction. Department stores, for example, do not like restrictions on foreign textiles.

The Administration certainly does not appear to be giving up the battle, but these are early days in formulating a post-Bonn strategy. There seem to be two schools of thought. One line of reasoning is that it would be pointless to try to bring any pressure to bear upon the French in the meantime.

Crisis for the Community

Therefore the best course is to get on with the preparatory meetings of officials, which the French agreed in Bonn should begin this summer, and to assume that if these go well full ministerial negotiations will start next year as originally planned.

Only if the French were still obdurate should the US then go ahead with the threat that Mr James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, made at the end of the Bonn summit to begin multilateral negotiations next year with those countries that were prepared to negotiate with the US. If the Europeans declined to take part, so be it.

If it were to come to that, there would be a crisis in the European Community. According to its laws, as set out in the Treaty of Rome, the Community has to conduct international trade negotiations as a single entity through the Commission, and there has to be unanimous agreement in the Council of Ministers before such negotiations can be started. So the French would have the legal right, if they cared to exercise it, to prevent any member of the Community responding to an American invitation.

But that would mean the US would be holding a new round of trade talks essentially with the countries of the Pacific. This would give a further thrust as a deliberate act of government policy to the commercial trend that is already apparent for the US to trade more with the Pacific region than with Europe, and I met nobody in Washington who believed that the French would hold out that far.

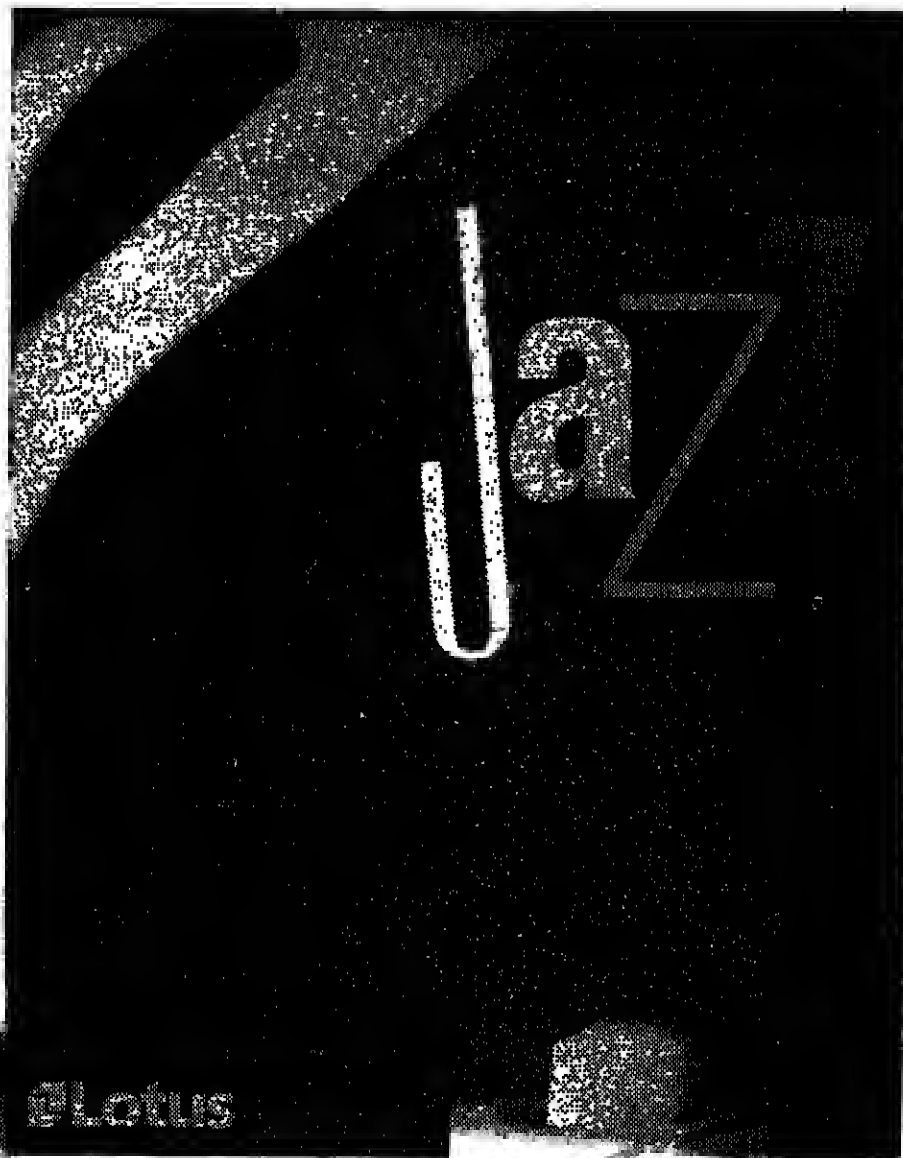
Europe could lose to the Pacific

None the less, what appears to be the dominant school of thought in the Administration is not prepared just to let events take their course. That would risk the initiative on protection passing to Congress. The Administration is determined to stay ahead of the game, and a decision in principle has been taken to look favourably on bilateral deals with those countries which ask for one.

I did wonder how much of this was being dressed up for presentational purposes, either to impress domestic opinion that something was being done or to put pressure on the Europeans. The possibilities mentioned either referred to processes that were well under way before Bonn - such as the official Canadian review which could lead to a North American free trade area - or seemed somewhat speculative, such as a free-trade area with Korea or the Asian countries of South-East Asia.

But I do believe that, if Europe were to stand aside from new trade talks, the US would either sooner or later turn more to the Pacific, with all the political implications of such a decision.

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Mapping the path for research

EEC ministers launch a high-tech challenge to America and Japan

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

The way for the EEC to join the third industrial revolution was mapped by Community research ministers meeting in Luxembourg yesterday. With a series of modest decisions they launched what amounts to a formal joint challenge to the might of American and Japanese high technology.

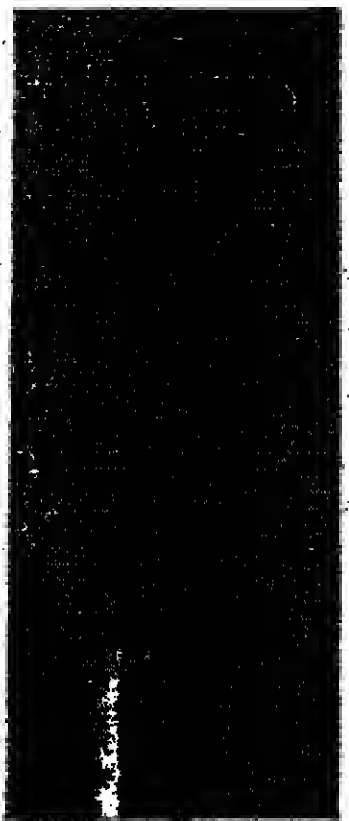
The most far-reaching decision was to start what is known in the EEC jargon as the RACE, like all Community high-tech acronyms, RACE is an English acronym, standing for Research and Development in Advanced Communications Technology for Europe.

What it amounts to is an attempt to make the telecommunications industries of each member state work together. Over the next decade it is estimated that EEC telecom-

munications will attract investment of about \$900 million, turning it into the largest new industry in the Community.

RACE is meant to integrate different systems into a high-speed network capable of the middle of the next decade of competing with the world. Yesterday's meeting discussed initial funding worth a mere £3.6 million to be used to define the scale of work to be done in projects to start next month.

There was also agreement to forge ahead with IRIS, an Italian idea, which stands for Initiative for Research into Informatics Applied to Society. Boiled down, it means finding ways of giving information technology a human face by identifying ways it can be made relevant to individuals.



Behind bars: Signor Sindona (left) talking to Mr Venetucci in the court cage at Milan.

Sindona goes on trial for Mafia murder

Milan (Reuters) - Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier, went on trial yesterday accused of ordering the Mafia murder of the lawyer investigating his failed business empire.

Looking pale and drawn, Signor Sindona was led into a cage in an assize court after being driven under heavy escort from a maximum security jail at Voghera, south of Milan.

He is accused of paying an Italo-American, William Joseph Arico, to kill the Milan lawyer, Giorgio Ambrosoli, in July,

1979, four years after he was appointed to wind up Signor Sindona's bank, the Banca Privata Italiana.

Robert Venetucci, a US citizen, was also on trial, accused of acting as an intermediary between Signor Sindona and Arico and arranging for the gunman to be paid.

The two accused were extradited last September from the United States, where Signor Sindona was serving a 25-year sentence after being convicted in New York in 1980 of fraud,

perjury and faking his own kidnapping.

The prosecution claims that Signor Sindona wanted to eliminate Ambrosoli because of the lawyer's opposition to his plans for rescuing his businesses in Italy, which crashed in 1974.

The prosecution is hoping that the trial will shed light on alleged links between Signor Sindona, the Mafia and the shadowy right-wing Propaganda Two (P2) Masonic lodge.

Signor Sindona, aged 64, rose from modest origins to become

a wealthy banker, friend of politicians and financial adviser to the Vatican.

Arico died last year while trying to break out of a New York jail. He had testified to a US district attorney that Sindona paid him \$40,000 (£35,500) for Ambrosoli's murder.

Signor Sindona's lawyers yesterday asked the court to consider their claim that there was no case to be heard, on the ground that Arico's testimony was not credible.

Strike puts New York hotels on self-service

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Hotel workers in New York City enter their fifth week on strike today, leaving guests to haul their luggage unassisted and to suffer other deprivations.

The walkout by 14,000 maids, bellboys, clerks, bartenders, waiters and chefs, began on Saturday at 45 hotels. The nine-unions Hotel and Motel Trades Council has threatened to extend it to another 40 hotels next Saturday.

In some hotels, the only meals available were self-serve buffets. Management staff are cleaning rooms and helping out at reception desks. With pickets chanting through the night, there have been grumbles up to the 50th floor.

The stoppage is over pay, which averages at \$315 a week. There have been no widespread booking cancellations so far, but some New York celebrity parties have had to change venue.

New York's tourist business is worth \$2 billion a year. The hotels host about 1,000 conventions and trade shows a year, attracting millions of visitors. This week alone 50,000 people will attend 250 conventions, trade shows, balls and other functions.

Another 400,000 out-of-towners will descend upon the Big Apple hotels during the week and on any given day at this time of year the city's 50,000 hotel rooms are 70 per cent full.

CBS network tries to thwart takeover

New York (NYT) - The CBS television network has petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to deny the takeover bid by the cable and broadcasting entrepreneur Mr Ted Turner, saying such a move would lead to the collapse of the network.

The 90-page petition seeks to persuade the five-member

commission that the takeover would hobble the company financially that it would be unable to support present levels of television news, entertainment and sports coverage.

CBS has five television stations and 13 radio stations, and broadcasts to more than 200 other television stations.

Mr Turner seeks to buy CBS for \$5.4 billion (£4 billion). He would pay no cash but would offer each shareholder a package of high-risk, high-interest-bearing securities in exchange for their shares. He has placed a value of \$175 a share on his securities, but most Wall Street analysts say they may be worth from \$135 to \$150 a share.

Lévesque's majority shrinks to one seat

From John Best, Ottawa

The Parti Québécois has been reduced to a one-seat majority in the Quebec legislature after its shattering defeat in four crucial by-elections on Monday.

Liberal candidates swept all four by-elections with solid majorities, and in one, L'Assomption in the Montreal area, the PQ ran a humiliating third behind Liberal and Conservative candidates.

Among those elected was the Liberal leader and former provincial Premier Mr Robert Bourassa, who was handily, though not spectacularly, defeated near Montreal. He defeated Mrs Francine Lalonde, recently appointed to the PQ Cabinet, by a three to two margin.

In Bourget in the Montreal area and in Trois-Rivières, about 125 miles to the east, Liberal candidates crushed their PQ opponents by margins of three-to-one and four-to-one respectively.

The results leave the PQ Government with 61 seats in the province's 122-seat National Assembly against 53 for the Liberals and seven independents. One seat is still vacant.

The PQ's razor-thin margin compares with the 38-seat Majority party won in the last provincial election, in 1981, and will inevitably increase pressure on the Premier, Mr René Lévesque, to either resign or call a general election soon.

The party has lost 26 consecutive by-elections since it came to power in 1975.

Mr Lévesque, aged 62, precipitated a big revolt in his separatist-minded party last November by declaring that it should no longer actively seek Quebec independence from Canada. Of the four seats at stake on Monday, three had been held by PQ Cabinet ministers who resigned in protest.

A smiling Mr Bourassa, aged 51, said after his victory that "the legitimacy of the Government" had been put in doubt by the results. "Mr Lévesque continues to cling to power, the Parti Québécois may not survive," he said. Mr Bourassa has vowed to bring down the Government at the first opportunity. It would be sweet revenge for him: he was thrown out of office at the hands of the PQ nine years ago.

Man in the news

Poll marks milestone in Bourassa's comeback

From Our Correspondent, Ottawa

You wonder, to look at him, how he ever got into politics. Tall and gangly, with an aloof and vaguely academic bearing, he looks like someone who would be more at home at a university than a rough election campaign.

Yet Mr Robert Bourassa, aged 51, has done remarkable things in politics, and he is in the process of doing more.

Booted out of office in disgrace nine years ago by the voters of the French-speaking Quebec province, Mr Bourassa seems well on his way to becoming Premier once again. As things look now, it would take a near miracle to stop him from taking over the leadership of the province with a population of six million in the general election expected later this year.

Monday's by-election in the constituency of Bertrand, where he ran to unseat Mrs Francine

Lalonde, a Cabinet minister in the beleaguered Parti Québécois Government, marked a milestone in Mr Bourassa's comeback.

It was one of four Quebec by-elections. Mr Bourassa's re-emergence into political limelight crowns a period of personal re-birth which began in 1981, when the Liberals lost their second straight general election to the separatist PQ.

Only the year before the PQ had lost its long-heralded referendum on Quebec independence from Canada. But when the Liberals under the austerous Mr Claude Ryan a former newspaper publisher failed to deliver the widely-expected knock-out blow in 1981, the party turned back to Mr Bourassa.

Mr Bourassa had been Premier for two terms when he and the Liberals, trailing a scent of corruption and ineptitude largely associated with costs of the Montreal Olympic Games, were unceremoniously booted out of office by the PQ in 1976.

The Premier suffered personal defeat in the Mercier constituency and quickly succumbed to pressure to resign. Though returned as party leader in 1983, Mr Bourassa has held off running for a seat in the provincial legislature until now.

Campaigning for the by-election in Bertrand, an area of mixed farming and small factories, Mr Bourassa, a trained economist, talked frequently about strategies to avoid plant shut-downs.



Mr Bourassa: Looks more like an academic.

Rising wave of executions

By Our Foreign Staff

There were now 44 criminal and political offences in China carrying the death penalty, Amnesty International said yesterday.

The human rights body said it knew of 292 confirmed executions in China last year, but the information was based mainly on reports from urban centres. Smaller towns and rural areas were not included.

Amnesty said it had documentary evidence of more than 1,500 executions in 40 countries in 1984, but the real total was likely to be much higher.

It had confirmed 661 executions in Iraq last year but believed many more actually took place.

About 1,400 prisoners were under sentence of death in the US by the end of the year.



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Elite Russian troops clear valley to lift siege of town

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A big Soviet and Afghan offensive has been launched to the east of Afghanistan, aimed at clearing a key valley of mujahidin guerrillas and relieving a besieged border town.

According to witnesses quoted yesterday by Western diplomats in Delhi, the brunt of the fighting in Konar valley is being borne by Soviet para-

one "well-placed Afghan source" as saying the combined force appeared to be about 4,000 strong. However, the diplomats added: "We know this figure is too low."

The Voice of America correspondent in Islamabad reported from mujahidin sources that the force was estimated at 10,000 strong. The diplomats' sources add that the task force appears to have reached Asmar, about 20 miles from Barikot, the border town which has been under siege since October.

The operation began in mid-May, with an airlift of troops to Jalalabad airport, which has been closed to civilian traffic since May 19. The ground operation started on May 21 and was continuing last week, when a witness reported that helicopters were taking off every five or 10 minutes throughout the day.

An unconfirmed report suggested that a number of helicopters had been shot down by ground fire. Diplomats say the helicopters are vulnerable to the Konar valley because of the narrowness of the defiles and steepness of the valley walls.

It is also reported that fixed-wing aircraft have been involved in the assault.



troops and commandos. The Afghan troops are merely being asked to hold ground cleared of insurgents by the Russians.

Western diplomats quoted



Calling card: A soldier and villager in Swir, in Pakistan, with an unexploded bomb dropped during a Soviet attack that killed 12 people.

Pakistan's 83 protests

Islamabad (AFP) - Pakistan's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zain Noorani, told the National Assembly that Soviet and Afghan planes and helicopters had violated Pakistan's air space 615 times since the Soviet intervention in December, 1979. Pakistan had pro-

tested 83 times to Afghanistan. The Air Force had not fought off the intruding aircraft because violations were often "technical" and short-lived, and because Pakistan did not want to "escalate the situation" in view of new UN-sponsored negotiations, the fourth since 1982.

Party control and policies give Mugabe clear lead

From Jan Raath, Harare

A nearly watertight and often brutal political network combined with policies that have bettered the living standards of the country's poor, are the factors that are almost certain to return the Government of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, to power next month.

A proclamation setting July 1 and 2 as the dates for Zimbabwe's 2.9 million black voters to elect 80 of the 100 members of the House of Assembly, was published yesterday.

The voting on June 27 by the white electorate of 34,000 for the other 20 seats is regarded as a sideshow. In two years the stage will have been reached where the constitution will allow, by an easily attainable 70 votes, white representation to be abolished or reduced. Such a move would now require the unanimous consent of the house.

There have been an by-elections to measure the popularity of Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party (which won 57 seats in the 1980 elections) against Zapu, the party of Mr Joshua Nkomo (20 in 1980) or the United African National Council of Bishop Abel Muzorewa (three seats in 1980) who ruled the country for 10 months in 1979 as the first black Prime Minister.

Immediately it came to power, Zanu (PF) began consolidating its strength in the eastern half of the country. The ruling party now has thousands

Nine parties take the field

Nine political parties and an independent registered yesterday for the common roll elections for the black candidates. They included the ruling Zanu (PF) party of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party and the United African National Council of Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the former Prime Minister.

Also registered were the Zimbabwe African National Democratic Union and the previously unheard-of National Progressive Alliance.

For the white roll Mr Ian Smith's Central Alliance of Zimbabwe and the Independent Zimbabwe Group registered along with an independent.

of party cells in almost every rural village and urban area. There are tightly controlled by the party hierarchy and vigour only policed by a bullying youth wing.

Attendance at Zanu (PF) meetings in the rural areas is compulsory and possession of a party card and paid-up dues are a necessary fact of life. Disputes are often settled by recourse to the party rather than the authorities.

In February Mr Meyer Urimbo, the Deputy National Political Commissar issued instructions for party cells in Harare to ensure minority parties cannot hold house meetings in the townships -

these have not been rescinded. The effect has been to smash any attempt at organization by the opposition parties.

Zanu (PF) has sought to establish networks in the west but has been prevented by an almost solid wall of loyalty to "the old man", as Mr Nkomo is affectionately known, while Zapu has virtually no offices outside any urban Matabeleland centre, all of them closed by either the security forces or members of the youth wing.

Support for Zapu is interpreted by authorities as support for the dissidents, a term the Government uses to refer to guerrillas.

Despite these measures, district council elections in much of Matabeleland, usually in the presence of aggressive security forces, came out with unwavering support for Zapu.

In the midlands, where support for the two parties has traditionally been divided, Zanu (PF)'s campaign has been particularly fierce. Support for the four of the 11 seats Mr Nkomo won there in 1980 is expected to be eroded.

The VANC, shorn of its rural support and almost incapable of operating in the townships, is counting on urban dissatisfaction with the high cost of living and the Government's radical socialist rhetoric.

Financial observers report a distinct drop in the Government's push for Marxist-Leninist solutions in the last year and in April Mr Mugabe announced that the party would not, in this election, be campaigning for a one-party state.

Toll rises in prison lottery of death

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

The toll in the bizarre "death lottery" in the overcrowded police stations and remand prisons of Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais state, has risen to 16.

Prisoners have drawn up a list among themselves who are to die, and of the men who are to kill them, in an effort to draw attention to their plight. In one remand centre, 300 prisoners are crammed more than 30 to a cell, many with less than a square foot of space each.

In another incident over the weekend, eight prisoners were shot dead, and seven injured by police, as they tried to escape from a prison in the city of Campinas, São Paulo state, where 650 men are housed in a prison intended for 300, 22 to a cell.

The killings in Minas Gerais started in March, when prisoners had the macabre idea of killing nine inmates at regular intervals to get publicity.

"They kill, because they are living like animals", a police officer said. The men are only allowed nine bath a month, food is poor and hygienic facilities are almost non-existent.

Ironically one of the authors of the plan has himself since been killed by a prisoner who is claimed to have killed at least five men, usually by jumping on them while they were asleep, then strangling them.

The protest plan now seems to have degenerated into a wholesale settling of accounts.

Brazil's prisons are packed to overflowing, with as many prisoners in São Paulo - 12,500 - packed into police stations and other makeshift accommodation, as are in the prisons.

Even so, 50,000 criminals sentenced to serve a prison sentence to the state are at liberty, as there is just no space for them in prison.

The Campinas breakout, and the subsequent shooting of prisoners, is the latest in a series. Eleven escaping prisoners were shot dead at Sorocaba, also in São Paulo state, in March. While there are frequent settlements of accounts, some 13 men were killed in a single day in Rio de Janeiro prisons in 1983, by members of rival gangs.

The Governor of Minas Gerais state, Senhor Helio Garcia, has said that an emergency prison building programme will start soon, and the new Minister of Justice, Senhor Paulo Lyra, has indicated that money will be made available. The Belo Horizonte centre, the scene of most of the killings, is to be closed within a week.

Brazil is experiencing a crime wave of frightening proportions. The situation in the cities has become critical owing to the economic slowdown and high unemployment. There were 2,800 murders and 170,000 robberies in São Paulo in 1983.

Australia faces sales tax

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Australians will pay retail sales tax of 12.5 per cent on almost everything but get income-tax cuts averaging 30 per cent if proposals for revamping the country's tax system are accepted at a tax summit of industry, labour and government representatives next month.

The introduction of sales tax and cuts in income tax were the main features of a White Paper released yesterday containing the Government's preferred tax reforms.

Under the proposals the maximum income tax rate would drop from 60 per cent to 50 per cent of income of Aus \$35,001 (£18,421), the marginal rate for income between \$28,001 and \$35,000 from 48 to 40 per cent and the rate for most wage earners between \$19,501 and \$28,000 a year from 46 per cent to 35 per cent.

No tax would be paid by those earning less than \$120 a week and there would be a comprehensive capital-gains tax covering everything except the taxpayer's personal dwelling and personal items.

Karen rebels ambush Burma troop train

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Anti-government rebels in Burma are reported to have derailed and attacked a train carrying hundreds of troops to the eastern border with Thailand.

An officer of the Karens Rebel Army on the Thai border said he had been informed by radio that many soldiers were killed and wounded in the incident on June 1.

He said guerrillas of the First Karen Brigade fired on the train after explosives they had planted blew it off the rails at Mokpalin, 65 miles north-east of Rangoon. He described the incident as "a perfect ambush".

There has been no verification of the derailment, but the Rangoon Government recently hinted that such attacks were occurring. In one statement the

Government said terrorist attacks behind the lines were more frequent than direct clashes between its forces and the rebels.

The Karens, who have been fighting for their own state for more than 35 years, claim to be killing at least 100 Burmese soldiers a month in raids on military positions.

More than 13,000 Karen civilians have fled from the fighting into Thailand. Their presence embarrasses the Thais who are anxious to maintain good relations with Burma.

The Thai Supreme Commander, General Arthit Kamlaong-Ek, will discuss the problem when he visits Rangoon soon. He is going, he said yesterday, to strengthen Thailand's relations with Burma.

Kohl begins visit to Yugoslavia

From Desha Trevisan, Belgrade

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany arrived here on a three-day official visit. It comes only a few days after his hostess, Yugoslavia's Prime Minister, Mrs Milka Planinc, returned from the US with a renewed pledge from the Reagan Administration of understanding and support for Belgrade as it struggles with economic difficulties.

It goes without saying that economic topics will get priority in talks with Herr Kohl, especially as West Germany is Yugoslavia's second biggest trading partner, after the Soviet Union.

The talks come at a time when Yugoslavia's economic crisis is getting worse. Efforts to step up exports to the West are encountering serious problems, and inflation has reached 80 per cent this year.

Rather than concentrating on obtaining new credits, Yugoslavia seems anxious to reinforce economic co-operation with the EEC and especially to secure better chances for its exports to the area.

Vatican's missing million lira

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Concordat replacing the 1929 agreement between Mussolini and the Holy See has begun with a rare distinction - the official gazette published the text with an important misprint.

Two principal differences between the old and the new Concordat are that the Roman Catholic religion is no longer described as "the religion of the state". Religious instruction in schools is left to the free choice of pupils and their parents while a system of financial help to the Church will come into force over the next five years, including an arrangement by which taxpayers can deduct contributions to the Church from income tax up to two million lira (£820).

The version published in the gazette gives this figure as one million and an official correction will have to be made.

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Prime Minister, went to the Vatican on Monday for the formal exchange of instruments of ratification.

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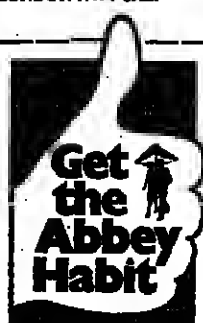
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THE ARTS

Alessandra Ferri leaves the Royal Ballet for American Ballet Theatre at the end of this season; Sir Kenneth MacMillan is working with ABT already: Clive Barnes reports from New York on the influence he is having

A new kind of creativity

The appointment last year of Kenneth MacMillan as Artistic Associate (a title itself mildly ambiguous) of American Ballet Theatre marked a major departure for American ballet, and one potentially of considerable significance to the international dance world. Not since 1939, when Antony Tudor left London to join the then completely new Ballet Theatre for its very birth pangs, had there been an Anglo-American exchange of such magnitude.

Undoubtedly, MacMillan's appointment was unexpected — an American/European, such as Glen Tetley or John Neumeier, might have been more likely. Yet MacMillan's appointment was not quite so bizarre as it might have seemed at a first, casual glance.

Go back to 1946, when Ballet Theatre first visited Covent Garden, and its then directors, the pioneering Lucia Chase and Oliver Smith, were enormously impressed with the scope and magnitude of the Royal Opera House's resident ballet company, only a few years older than Ballet Theatre itself, and then known as the Sadler's Wells Ballet. It was love at first sight, and engendered a strong desire to emulate the British model.

Also, almost at the beginning of his choreographic career, MacMillan had caught the attention of the American dramatic ballerina Nora Kaye, and became a small part of Ballet Theatre's choreographic family as early as 1957. However, Sir Kenneth, oddly enough, never proved all that popular with either American audiences or, particularly, American critics.

So, when MacMillan arrived at his new appointment, he

reasonably enough decided to play it safe, and to offer as his visiting card, or perhaps letter of intent, a new production of his familiar *Romeo and Juliet*. Now American ballet has surely never seen a more sheerly spectacular sight than this MacMillan/Nicholas George version of the Prokofiev score in a totally authentic restaging of the 20-year-old production made familiar here by the Royal Ballet.

Artistically the only major regret must be that the expensive, expansive mounting of this new-old *Romeo* probably means that the aesthetically far superior one-act *Romeo and Juliet* by Antony Tudor, a cornerstone of the Ballet Theatre heritage, will now be abandoned. A shoddy, if seemingly rich, exchange. Nevertheless the trend in American dance appears to be towards the full-evening extravaganza, and there can be little doubt that like last season's production of *Cinderella*, and with far better cause, Ballet Theatre has hired itself a box-office hit.

Sir Kenneth's choreography is generally regarded as at its best in the rhapsodic, sensuous, almost sensual duets for the lovers, and this is indeed some of his finest, best-sculptured work. However his general crowd scenes, his complete mise-en-scene, particularly his depiction of the real Anastasia and her family, the stage is set for a striking piece of what used to be called "total theatre". Unfortunately the ballet does not deliver. It has, in effect, no choreography of any interest, or even consistent dynamic invention. Nothing happens except lots of people are kept busy running in and out wearing fancy dress.

The current Royal Ballet has few Juliets to match the high-

powered, intense acting of Leslie Browne, who made every glance and gesture a telegraphic act of poetry. At times her acting was even too detailed, but her unexpectedly lyrical dancing carried all before it. Sir Kenneth has a way of bringing out dancers, particularly dramatically. During the season Ballet Theatre — in a flurry of casting that recalls the Royal Ballet when the work was new in 1965 — produced seven pairs of star-cross'd lovers, with such experienced hands as Natalia Makarova and Fernando Bujones (not, alas, in partnership) sharing attention with such apt and younger pairs as Amanda McKerron and Robert Hill, and Bonnie Moore and John Turchman.

This *Romeo* has been generally well received by New York's critics, and the boudoir duet from *Manon*, danced by Makarova partnered (as she was in *Romeo*) by Kevin McKenzie, passed without much comment. MacMillan's one-act version of *Anastasia* was far less kindly welcomed.

With its use of electronic music as an introduction to its Martinu score, the astounding, map-textured, circular setting by the late Barry Kay that swirlingly commands the stage, and the effective use of old-fashioned home-movie shots of the real Anastasia and her family, the stage is set for a striking piece of what used to be called "total theatre". Unfortunately the ballet does not deliver. It has, in effect, no choreography of any interest, or even consistent dynamic invention. Nothing happens except lots of people are kept busy running in and out wearing fancy dress.



MacMillan's way of spreading opportunities: the experienced Fernando Bujones with Marianna Tcherkassky as but one of seven pairs of lovers in *Romeo and Juliet*

Certainly the title role is a challenge. The dancer has to build up a characterization with very little in the way of expressive choreography to help. The new Anastasia, Cynthia Gregory, looks pathetically like a wounded bird, projects frustration, bitterness and despair with heroic anguish, and has a proper moment of imperial triumph when at the end she poses on her bed, which

perambulates around the stage, in the baller's anti-climatic climax. Marlene van Hamel, who has also appeared as the doomed heroine, makes little difference to the work. Unfortunately, when the most fascinating parts of a ballet — indeed the only fascinating parts — are clips from old silent movies, that ballet is in trouble. So Sir Kenneth's first report card is mixed. He has said that he has been much taken by the

energy and physicality of the Ballet Theatre dancers, and expressed the feeling that they will inspire him to a new kind of dance creativity. This could well prove so. To some observers on both sides of the Atlantic it seems that the rare promise MacMillan showed in his youth has yet to be fully fulfilled. Conceivably New York and American Ballet Theatre are about to give that fulfilment a second chance.

Theatre
Plastic prioritiesTwelfth Night
Regent's Park

The sight of an ugly clump of plastic trees nestling among the authentic summer greenery betokens the presence of a director who knows his way around this treacherous space where nature usually works against art. Those trees (designed by Tim Reed) may not be much to look at, but when it comes to scenes of eavesdropping and concealment they do the job far better than the genuine article.

That detail proclaims the hand of Richard Digby Day, an old hand in the park. None knows better than he that a passing jumbo jet is likely to coincide with the voluptuously melodic opening (as it did on Monday), so the main thing is for Orsino to speak up; and any attempt at gentle shading is going to be blotted out. What thrives in Regent's Park is broad, decisive playing, of a kind that lets nobody miss the point; and that is what this company supplies.

Visual elegance is another matter, and here Mr Day gets the best of both worlds by ramming home the internal oppositions of the comedy by presenting it in exquisite Caroline costume: velvets, satins and wide lace collars for the courtly groups; and as for Malvolio, there is no question of his being "a sort of Puritan" — he is a Puritan.

The weight of the production falls heavily on story-telling and fun. Alyson Spira and John MacAndrew supply a close pair of lookalike twins and speak up spiritedly for themselves, but with hardly a moment of lyricism.

As for Feste, Paul Bradley abdicates entirely from any claim to the centre of the play. What he presents is a black Irish joker: either a comedian nor a singer, he excels in begging and revenge.

The Aguecheek-Toby relationship is inventively directed, and for once presents an authentically gentlemanly Toby in Michael Denison. The drawback is that Mr Denison, affecting rheumy old eyes and a slack jaw, comes over as hardly less of a dupe than Paul Raffield's bulbously quilted knight.

There remains one marvelous performance in John Moffatt's Malvolio: an immensely self-respecting menial, dressed in the height of sober taste, whose very walk suggests the operation of a perfectly regulated clock. When this beautiful mechanism starts falling to pieces — emitting a most undignified little squeak of excitement in the letter scene, and finally reduced to abject, heart-broken sincerity at the end — he progressively eclipses every other character on stage.

Irving Wardle

Concert

Strauch/Ledingham
Purcell Room

England hears too little of Jacek Strauch. Since his last Purcell Room recital five years ago, he has been working as principal baritone at Würzburg and Saarbrücken. His voice and physique have filled out considerably, and what was a youthful, careful engagement with his audience has expanded to a robust grandiloquence. Unfamiliarity with the name, and an all-Russian programme, doubtless had something to do with the fact that, although his voice could fill the Festival Hall, his recital filled barely half the Purcell Room.

The evening began with Tchaikovsky, whose "My beloved, my angel", with its powerfully cumulated phrases, immediately revealed the voice's true stature. The central climax of "Why?" became the soaring arc of the entire group, and it, too, was as excitingly built through each register of the voice as it was resplendently achieved.

Strauch likes nothing better than to seize a character by the neck, hurl him and us into the heart of a little scene, and play it for all it is worth. On Monday there was another chance to hear his Rachmaninov "Arioso", heroic in its storm-tossed ascents and descents, and there were two drunkards, Tchaikovsky's and Mussorgsky's, both shaken by admonitions started out from the entire body.

His vivid portrait gallery of "Mussorgsky" songs confirmed Strauch's imaginative as well as vocal strength; his Glière and Tchaikovsky pointed the vulnerability of this vocal Samson. The voice, in all its expressive breadth, is out easy to tame, and there are times when he seems unwilling to sacrifice enough of what it can do for the sake of what, in the context, it must do.

But, if some subtlety of phrasing and sharpness of focus needs to be reintegrated into his performances, then the sheer energy of his response to verbal and musical language, and the resources and enthusiasm he possesses with which to communicate it, are rare and compelling. Iain Ledingham, accompanying, was everywhere, equal to his task, his was the glory in three Medtner piano solos masquerading as songs.

Hilary Finch

The 24-year-old Brazilian pianist José Feghali has won first prize in the Van Cliburn Competition in Fort Worth, Texas. Feghali, one of six young performers backed by the Young Concert Artists Trust last year, thus collects \$12,000 and a 30-month contract and recording contract that includes a recital at Carnegie Hall. The second prize went to a Frenchman, Philippe Bianconi, and the third to the 25-year-old Belfast-born Barry Douglas, the only British finalist from an original field of 35 pianists.

Dance

Bridge the Distance
Sadler's Wells

It is tough on London Contemporary Dance Theatre to follow so closely upon Merce Cunningham's season at the Wells. The juxtaposition makes clear that even that so far the company has achieved only half of what it was started for under the stimulus of Cunningham, Graham and Paul Taylor 21 years ago. The new breed of dancers were promised is here, but we and they still desperately await the new breed of choreographers.

I can take only one work in Monday night's opening programme seriously. The other two frantically try to disguise their second-hand, half-baked movement ideas, respectively Graham-lyrical and disco-dreary, behind obtrusive moving decors, eccentric costumes and the performers' energy. Robert Cohan's *Skyward*, to a Messiaen pastiche by Eleanor Alberga, is at least well danced; Tom Jobe's *Rite Electric* lacks even that extenuation.

Siobhan Davies's *Bridge the Distance*, new to London, is the programme's redeeming feature. She alone takes good music, Britten's Third String Quartet, and treats it with attentive craftsmanship, a personal flavour and some imagination. From Britten's sub-title for the last movement, *La serenissima*, and a passing relationship with his last opera, she derives a theme in which Patrick Harding-Irmer does not, I think actually, represent Aschenbach but in his isolated, twisted slow solos shares with him a dream of impossible beauty.

That lonely figure is set against the relationships of four couples, who at first seem happy with one another and their neighbours, but later split up into an exclusive quartet, an



Yearning stretches: Patrick Harding-Irmer impressive in the central role of *Bridge the Distance*

aggressive pair, another couple in evident torment, even break-away individuals. Even with the help of David Buckland's allusive front-draw (revised and improved since the Oxford premiere) to provide cues before the work begins, also Peter Mumford's lighting to change the temperature at times, the details of Davies's intentions are not easy to follow. She seems afraid to let rip, emotionally or in movement, and that gives her work a degree of remoteness. In spite of that, Davies does have the ability to make you care, to provoke a wish to become better acquainted with the piece. I think that is because she combines a carefully shaped formal structure with hints of emotion, and sometimes more than hints. Harding-Irmer's performance in the central role is impressive. Hiding his athletic physique in a suit that gives the impression of shapelessness, he mixes long, yearning stretches of his arms with angular, bent-in twists of his body and legs, forming poses that seem constantly on the point of imbalance. Among the rest of a strong cast, Jonathan Lunn's portrait of smug indifference is outstanding, as is the obsessive searching by Anca Frankenhäuser and Julian Moss.

John Percival

Galleries

Charles Sargeant
Jagger
Imperial War Museum

Most visitors to London are at least lazily aware of the Royal Artillery Memorial at Hyde Park Corner, and quite a few users of Paddington Station must have spared a glance at the Great Western Railway Memorial of a Soldier Reading a Letter. But how many could tell you who was responsible for these two memorable pieces of public sculpture — not to mention the figure of Shackleton on the Royal Geographical Society, or the monumental figures on Imperial Chemical House, Millbank? Now at least there is no longer any excuse for vagueness: the answer is revealed in an impressive exhibition at the Imperial War Museum until September 29, devoted to the War and Peace Sculpture of Charles Sargeant Jagger.

The occasion is the centenary of Jagger's birth; it just misses the fiftieth anniversary of his death, which fell last year. Jagger was obviously perfectly placed to get both the worst and the best of the First World War. In 1914 he was 29, and just about to go off and take up a Rome Scholarship in sculpture; but apparently the muddled idealism of his generation impelled him to volunteer immediately for active service, and so he spent much of the next two years in the most belated part of the war zone, until he was invalided out of Gallipoli. However, he was then able to take up his career as a sculptor again, and came in for quite a large part of what one might heartlessly call a sculptor's bonanza, the craze in the Twenties for erecting war memorials. He came to design his most famous single work, the Artillery Memorial, after designs by Lutyens and Derwent Wood had been rejected, and though there was a certain amount of controversy about the result — especially the bowtizer surrounding it, realistically rendered in stone — it did make him famous.

Other memorial commissions preceded and followed it, and in the public mind he was always associated with the war, though he was also responsible for some major works which were entirely unwarlike, such as the figures for ICI and, rather unexpectedly, the elegantly satirical bronze relief *Scandal*.

Jagger was only 49 when he died of a heart condition perhaps caused in part by his war experiences, and in the very different atmosphere, political and artistic, of the Second World War his name and reputation were soon lost from view. But this show demonstrates that he had some quite extraordinary qualities. Few sculptors, for instance, have ever matched him in the believable yet heroic depiction of men in modern clothes: his heroes of war and exploration manage to be monumental without that faintly absurd air that jackets and trousers usually have in stone or bronze.

John Russell Taylor

Television

Killing in close-up

Behind the Lines (BBC2) is the kind of series you would expect of its producer, Michael Begg. Dangerous, sympathetic to the underdog and, despite a show of irreverence, curiously establishment. In the fourth of his seven programmes on the Royal Marines, Begg set his sights on camouflage and sniping. Like creatures from the deep, draped in ferns and smeared to mud, the Marines squelched on their bellies towards their rasping instructors. They had to get near enough to kill without being seen.

Ooe Marine, to make understandably sure of this, was failed for getting too close and letting off his gun at some fish. He could have shot himself in the foot without much worry. Men like him are hardened against death.

"When family die," said another, just about putting his words in the right order, "it's not such a big deal as it used to be before you joined up." "A nice fresh wound," salivated a lecturer, rubbing his hands over a slide as if it were a Sunday joint. "If you smash that're going to have problems", observed another instructor, referring to the Adam's apple.

Polished as Ian Woodbridge's commentary was, it lacked spit, which meant the programme had patches of sounding like a recruiting film.

After two long episodes, BBC2's innosent opera *Bodyline* is in danger of doing for cricket

what last week did for soccer. So far this epic clash of the saturnine Jardine and the boy-wonder Bradman has been like a cross between *Chariots of Fire* and an advert for Colortone.

There is little of the excitement or subtlety of cricket, which on the pitch is reduced to boundaries hit and wickets taken, and off the pitch to brilliant characters in black tie nursing large liqueur glasses.

The watery voice of Edith, Jardine's jazzy girl, makes some attempt to narrate the story of his obsession with Bradman — an obsession that means she has to wear pads to arouse him. She cannot however stop Jardine from uttering such telling lines as "Harold, you've bowled a lot of balls".

When he comes out with the remark "Nobody has used pace properly" you feel he is not just arching his eyes at Larwood but at his producers, Terry Hayes and George Miller. The pace is so slow and the deliveries are so wide ("At least God is an Englishman, or has that changed too?") that you begin to pray for bouncers.

Two must be spared the slow handclap — John Gregg as the Surrey captain, Perry Fender, and Frank Thring as the podgy, sandy-voiced treasurer of the MCC, Lord Harris.

Nicholas Shakespeare

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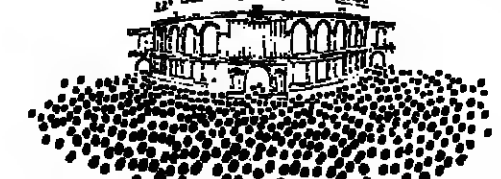
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Patrick Knight
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Shopping around for a job

A new breed of educated youngsters is applying for a career in retail management, but as Sally Brompton discovered, the standards are high and selection tough

When Dean Cloke wrote off for a job in retailing he had no idea what was in store for him. For a while, simply attending the interviews, with half a dozen of the major chains, became a career in itself.

The 16-year-old grammar school boy from Swanley, Kent, filled in forms and faced panels, took tests and sat exams, gave speeches and acted out marketing situations, went on tours of stores, competed in group projects and even spent a couple of days closeted in an hotel with 11 other applicants who were mainly graduates.

After weeks of being processed by such high-powered selection techniques he was finally offered a job as a £5,300 management trainee with F. W. Woolworth. He is still deciding whether to accept it or take up one of the two university places he has been offered, to read accounting and financial management.

Dean, a milkman's son who is taking four A levels this year, is typical of a new breed of educated youngster to whom retail management has become an acceptable career option.

No longer a poor relation to the professions, Britain's retail trade has become respectable. For the first time since Napoleon dismissed us as a nation of shopkeepers, and television turned "being served" into a long-running joke, retailing has become a desirable occupation. And for many graduates, unable to find a job in the first profession of their choice, it has also become a necessary alternative.

In the words of Dean Cloke, whose original ambition was to be a vet: "At first I was disappointed when I discovered

According to Mr Kevin Heald, personnel controller of British Home Stores, it is only recently that large numbers of graduates have been applying for jobs in retailing. Of the 5,000 managerial job applications he receives each year, 80 per cent are currently from graduates - double the percentage of five years ago. With an average of only about 200 jobs to fill it is scarcely surprising that BHS is experimenting with new selection techniques which involve the applicants in "much more searching and testing situations" which include spending a whole day in one of their stores with a panel of assessors.

The youngsters are given syndicate-type exercises such as working out a typical management problem, and psychological, aptitude and numeracy

There are a lot of leading questions now? Glenda Griffiths Marks & Spencer

tests. Then there are various discussions on current issues such as development within the commercial sector.

"They are standard techniques designed to try to get a better insight into the applicant and also to give him an opportunity to get a better insight into us," explained Heald.

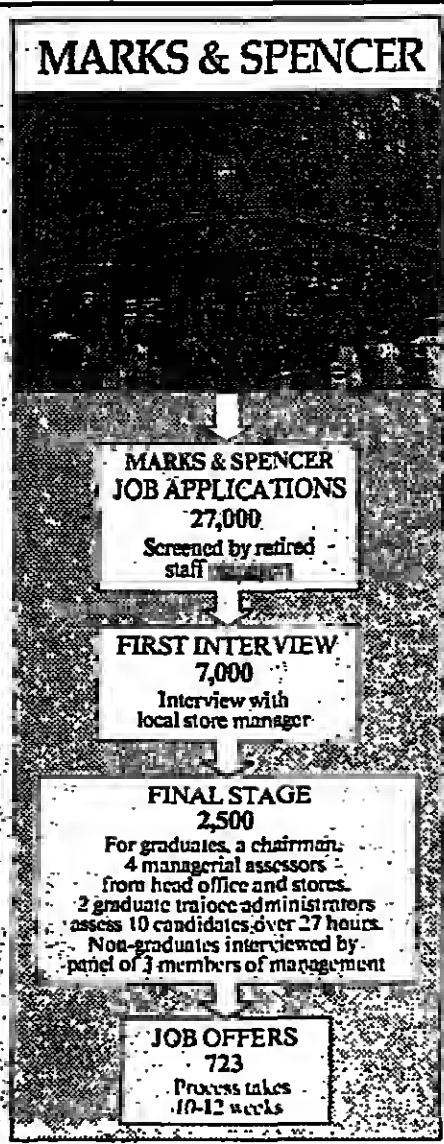
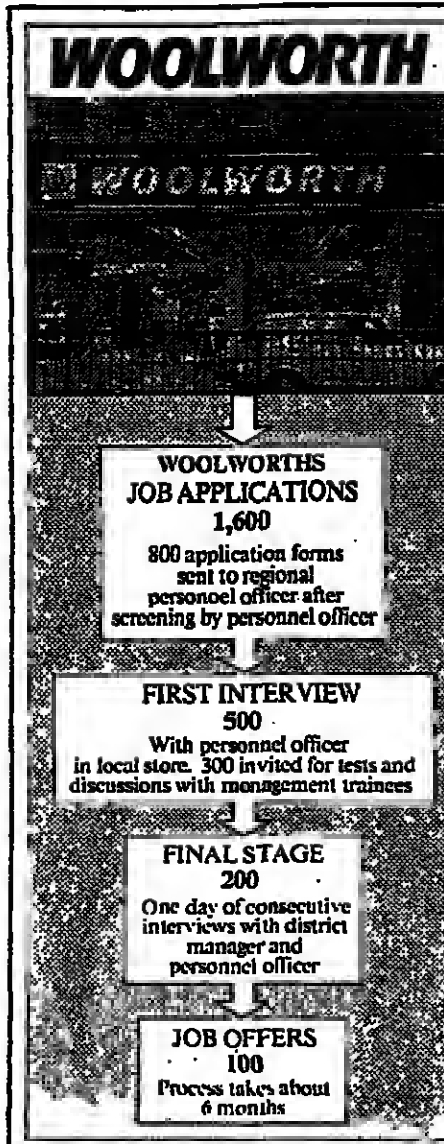
"Retailing has grown far more sophisticated and therefore requires more qualified personnel and more accurate methods of selecting them."

Marks & Spencer, popularly considered to be the pinnacle of retail management, has been using 27-hour selection centres to appraise graduate applicants for the past five years.

"The centres have proved better for testing the skills and qualities of applicants than by just talking to them," says Miss Glenda Griffiths, an administrative assistant in the management recruitment department.

"Often it can be hard to get beneath the surface of a professional interviewee. It's important to give them a fair opportunity to show their true qualities."

When Griffiths joined the company herself 13 years ago, all she had to do was fill in an application form. "Even the initial form has become infinitely



nately more complicated than it used to be," she admits. "There are a lot of very leading questions now. Applicants are asked to make an assessment of themselves and their relevant past experiences."

Last year, Marks & Spencer received nearly 27,000 applications for about 700 managerial vacancies. Of those applicants, almost 7,000 were interviewed with less than 2,400 reaching the second selection stage. "We went considerably over our original target on the young management scheme," says Miss Griffiths.

"It's very competitive because 27,000 people automatically make it, but there are jobs for the good people and the number of people we are looking for in a year is pretty high on the job market."

Like most of its competitors, Marks & Spencer goes out of its way to attract graduates, advertising jobs in university publications and holding selection centres within reach of the campuses.

Salaries compare favourably with most of the professions. A graduate on an M & S senior management trainee scheme can expect to earn around £7,500, while a school-leaver will get £5,850.

With such competitive salaries, the retailers are understandably anxious to ensure that they have employed high achievers who are not likely to leave the company after a few months.

With a trainee budget of £2.4 million, Nigel Whitaker, personnel director of Woolworth, estimates that the cost of "running a trainee" works out at about £10,000 a year. But while a graduate might complete his training in under 18 months, an A level student is likely to take up to three years. It therefore makes good financial

sense to employ the graduate.

With Woolworth's group profits up from £5 million to £56 million since it was taken over by a British consortium two and a half years ago, the company is anxious to consolidate its success by raising the standard of its employees.

"The life blood of the future depends on the young people we recruit into the business," says Whitaker.

"Retailing has become quite an interesting sector to go into now. It has a much higher profile than was the case previously. We're noticing that people are applying to us for jobs who didn't apply previously."

Retailing has a much higher profile today? Nigel Whitaker Woolworth

"Before the takeover, we didn't have the depth of personnel we now require. Today, half the managerial staff we take on are graduates."

Of the 2000 enquiries they currently receive each year for 100 managerial jobs, 40 per cent are from graduates. "They tend to be more mature," Whitaker says. "These days, the more able youngsters tend to go through college or university before they try to get a job."

It is a new approach for the 77-year-old American-born company which has traditionally favoured teenage school-leavers rather than university students. And it is an attitude which is currently revolutionizing the British retail trade.

Last September (1984), Europe's first high degree course in retail marketing began at Manchester Polytechnic. Of the 746 applications received for places there was room for only 38. "We could have taken double that number with the quality of people who applied," admits the course's principle lecturer, Dr Gary Davies.

Supported by about 50 of the country's leading retailers, but not by the Government, the four-year sandwich degree (BA Hon.) aims to teach both the academic and practical side of the selling business. "It doesn't really take a graduate to run a single shop," says Davies, "but when you're talking about hundreds of outlets it becomes more of an intellectual challenge."

"The retailers are becoming more selective because managerial jobs are becoming more demanding. Applicants need a combination of interpersonal skills and entrepreneurial flair and not many 18-year-olds obviously fit the bill."

"One retailer recently lost about two-thirds of his trainee managers in their first year and I think that's pretty general. It's obviously more cost-effective to spend a fair bit of time and money making sure you're not going to lose your graduates over the first 12 months."

He agrees that the retail industry has suffered from a down-market public image. "It doesn't deserve it," he says. "I've been extremely impressed by the professionalism of the retailers we've been working with and the quality of their management."

"These days, if you look at what top store-managers earn you're talking about salaries well over £20,000. And for that sort of money you expect the best."

Davies would like to see

retailing achieve the kind of respectability enjoyed by other commercial careers. "There's nothing intrinsically wrong with service activities," he says. "But I don't see retailing ever

6 Top managers earn over £20,000 a year? Dr Gary Davies Manchester Poly

becoming a profession, more an alternative career pathway."

Certainly, the big chains are doing their utmost to attract capable, well-qualified youngsters to their career structures. The new sophisticated selection techniques are helping. Even so, their methods of choosing trainees are not infallible.

"It's not a very exact science," admits Glenda Griffiths. "I would be very surprised if any recruiter said he didn't make mistakes on occasions. Selection centres have just helped us to make less."

She believes that one of the advantages of the centres is to give applicants a chance to demonstrate a sense of humour - or lack of it. One young man, confronted with a typical managerial problem involving delivery dates, was asked by a Marks & Spencer assessor what he would do if the wholesalers were unable to deliver at the agreed time.

"I'd be sick as a parrot," John, retorted the student. His reply, insists Griffiths, had nothing to do with the fact that he did not get the job but it did give his assessors a moment of light relief.

Careless walks cost lives by the sea

If you live and work by the sea, successive events decree that your life will be governed by the wind, the waves and the tide. You accept that their rhythms dictate how you will spend your day. They are intermingling, interdependent and powerful.

Proximity to this power does not make you afraid, it just makes you careful about where you go and what you do. It breeds respect.

Respect comes from the spray which the wind hurls against our window 50ft above the beach. Respect is earned by the 10lb stone which the overnight waves casually tossed over the door at the bottom of our steps in Lyme Regis, Dorset.

The holidaymaker is sometimes vulnerable because he does not have this respect. He does not even know that he needs it.

The woman who climbed the gentle steps to view the waves from the top of the sea wall did not have it. The wind picked her up like a wisp of straw and threw her to the concrete below. A coastguard and a police sergeant were there in seconds because they sensed it was about to happen. They could give first aid and sympathy, but these were not enough to offset the physical trauma or to replace the ruined holiday.

A year before, the harbour claimed a life. It was a rough night of spectacular breakers slamming the outer wall.

Exciting to watch, but not a time for walking the perimeter. In the hope of catching a breeze, the youth who died had his eyes on a high point - dry, safe and inaccessible. Experienced fishermen were not attempting to get round to their backing and crashing boats. They respect the rogne waves which are common but unpredictable. Inevitably the youth took the risk. Inevitably the sea leapt the 20ft wall and swept him into the harbour beyond. Unnecessarily, he died in just a few feet of calm water.

If the sea and the cliffs were not as they are, who would want to go there anyway? Holiday perfection is getting the balance right, grabbing the pleasure and controlling the adventure.

Coastguards in Swanage recently retrieved a body from the foot of a vertical cliff. The man had roped himself to a cliff-top rock to go down to a sunbathing ledge below. Half way through the descent, the rock to which he had tied himself followed him down. There are a dozen safer ledges within a hundred yards.

Accidents on sheer rocky cliffs are much less common than those which occur on seemingly passable slopes. The topsoil dries and crumbles beneath inexperienced feet. There is a regular pattern. The rain soaks into the soil, which the sun dries and cracks. The next rainstorm dribbles into the cracks and eats the earth away below. When pressured it snaps off.

It was this syndrome which almost caused the death of a baby whose father diverted from the cliff-top down a sloping path to the beach below. As he picked his way down with her pushchair in front of him, the path crumbled beneath his feet. Parent and pram slid down some 120ft of grass and stones before falling over a 15ft sheer drop into a thicket of lifesaving brambles. Thirty yards beyond, where the path was also crumbling, the drop would have been a sheer 200 feet to the shingle.

The accident is more ironic because the father could not have taken the pram over the boulders of the beach he was intending to use as his short cut to the next village along. Cliff walking is a super family pastime, but short cuts are bad news.

A short cut taken by a German girl was my own introduction to cliff rescue. The path to her barbed wire is good and well signposted, but she chose a scarcely defined track climbing away from the cliff-top. It has been made by sheep and does not go right to the beach.

At its end, she became dizzy and slipped down 200 feet of sheer mud. Some shrubs just 50 feet above the beach saved her life. That is where we found her some three hours later and only then because it was a particu-

larly still night and a walking couple heard her cries.

As rescues go, it did not look very spectacular. It was a mere 50ft climb, but in pouring rain over smooth mud with no handholds. We were more scared than the girl.

She was lucky, but the accident had not been helped. Had she consulted any local people, they could have told her about the cut-de-sac path. It is neither signposted nor marked on the Ordnance Survey map. Her family were at the camp site, but they had no idea where she was going, nor when she was expected back. Without the luck, the Coastguards would have had no idea where to begin their yard by yard search of cliffs and beach.

HM Coastguard is also an information service. The patrolling Land-Rover is usually crewed by local auxiliaries, who are knowledgeable about places to catch fish, viewpoints and tides. They always have recent local weather forecasts. They like to talk to the public who pay for their equipment. The Heritage Trust warden is also able to tell you about beach walks.

Last year, two people died in mere 400 yards from our gate and just 50 yards from safety. The beach along which they were walking from Charmonth diminished as the tide returned, they pressed on across rocks and groyne. On its surface, the sea was glassily calm.

They did not know that the returning tide always brings back the big ground swell, which is very bad just where they were eventually forced to stop.

The surge there has no predictable rhythm. At one moment it is 10ft below your feet; the next it is around your waist. The man and his wife were whisked away in a microsecond. Their companions could do nothing to assist. They were eventually snatched off by some courage and spectacular seamanship by the inshore lifeboat and the police - not without risk of the rescuers.



Rocky road: The Dorset coastline

Just a quarter of a mile away in the town, the rest of us enjoyed a sunlit drink and watched the calm, warm sea. Tragedy seemed to be impossible. Yet it happened. It happened because the party had not spent a few pence on a set of tide tables and a little knowledge.

Tide tables give a wealth of information about the times and the range of the tide. These are not constant. A tide of 5 metres does not simply advance and retreat that distance up and down the beach. It means that the rock you walk on at low water is 10ft below the surface just six hours later.

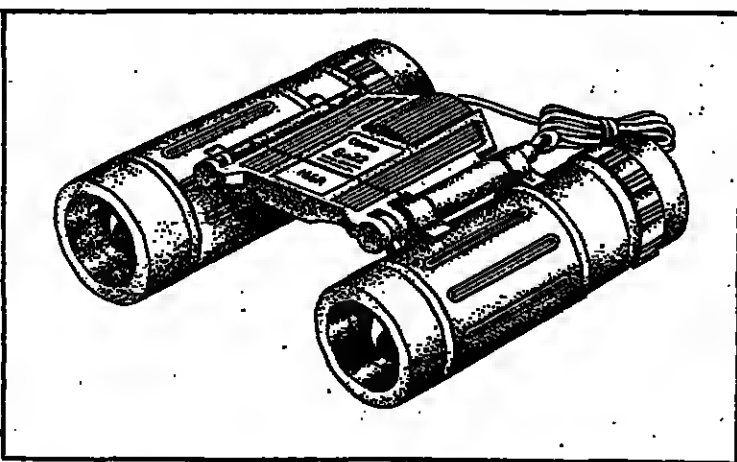
This rise begins slowly and reaches a crescendo in the middle of its six-hour flood. Then that same tide will cause the water level to rise over 8ft in two hours.

This sort of knowledge is readily available. Together with a big map it should be part of the holiday fun. Without it you risk becoming a seaside walk statistic. HM Coastguard logged 625 of them in its last annual report.

Colin Jones

TOMORROW
The Times Profile:
Yitzhak Shamir

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THE TIMES

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Christopher Follett looks at the myth of the Prince of Denmark

"Elsinore Castle", setting of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, celebrates its 400th anniversary next week (June 13 to 16) with extensive festivities. The Hamlet myth is still alive in Elsinore, very much fostered by an active tourist office. But was there ever a Hamlet, and if there was, did he ever pace up and down the long corridors of the castle in Elsinore?

In spite of energetic local canvassing to the contrary, the links between Elsinore and Shakespeare, and indeed Hamlet himself, are tenuous. Thousands of tourists, Shakespeare-lovers and historians have flocked to Elsinore for centuries to pay homage to Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, and to visit the impressive double-moated bastion of Kronborg, "Hamlet's castle", completed in 1585, which still dominates the narrow straits between Denmark and Sweden, 30 miles north of Copenhagen.

Historical research reveals that Hamlet was in fact a Jutish prince who never had anything to do with Elsinore. When Shakespeare wrote his tragedy in about 1600, Kronborg was a mere 15 years old. Shakespeare's knowledge of Elsinore derived, in all probability, from the many English theatrical companies which flocked to the city in the 16th century to perform at the court of King Christian IV.

Elsinore was at that time the leading port of call in Denmark for British merchant ships and many English traders and diplomats settled there. It is not at all certain whether Shakespeare himself ever visited Elsinore, but records do show that three actors who were acquaintances of the Bard performed in Elsinore in 1586. In 1598, a close friend of Shakespeare, John Dowland, the lutenist, played there. The plot of *Hamlet* stems from an ancient Jutland legend - *The Saga of Amleth*, the last independent Jutish king.

The original source of

Legend of Hamlet's castle lives on



Imposing: Kronborg Castle

Shakespeare's *Hamlet* is to be found in the work of Saxo Grammaticus, a scribe who culled ancient Danish legends, and published them in Latin in 1220. *Saxo's Gesta Danorum*, or *History of the Danes*, enjoyed great popularity and provided the first Latin account of Danish history. It is in this work that the saga of Amleth's revenge appears - Saxo's Amleth forms the basis of Shakespeare's "Danish" tragedy.

In the saga, which is set in east Jutland in the 7th century, King Fenge (in Shakespeare, Claudius) murders his brother Orvendel, King of Jutland and father of Amleth (Hamlet), and marries Gerude (Gertrude). The name Hamlet, or Amleth as it is in Danish, derives from the word *amleth* which in the Jutland dialect meant "mad". Madness was used as a cover by Amleth/Hamlet.

In Saxo's tale, Amleth avenged his father's death by killing Fenge, but, unlike Shakespeare's version, he lives on to die much later in a local Jutish feud. Amleth's supposed grave is today to be found on Ammelunde (Hamlet's Heath) near Randers, in east Jutland. But Hamlet of Elsinore lives on regardless. Undeterred by the historical evidence, Elsinore remains, faithfully, the Hamlet centre of Denmark.

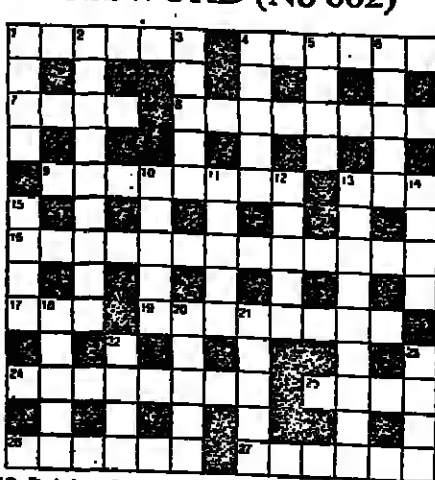
Hamlet was first performed at Kronborg Castle in 1816, to mark the 200th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. The play was again dutifully performed in 1916. Up to 1954, regular Hamlet performances were given in Kronborg with such notable actors as Olivier, Gielgud, Redgrave and Burton in the title role. The last Elsinore Hamlet was Derek Jacobi, in 1979, and this summer a Danish language version is to be staged.

The Hamlet myth which took hold in the 19th century remains very much in evidence in "Elsinore". Colonel Joergen Almar, the castellan at Kronborg, can point to the very place where Polonius was stabbed to death by Hamlet, behind the so-called King's Tapestry. In the nearby gardens of Marienlyst Palace, known in former days as "The English Gardens", a mound behind the Palace became the grave of Hamlet. Later on, an obelisk was added and a spring in the park was dubbed "Ophelia's Spring". There are now two charming statues of Hamlet and Ophelia by the Danish sculptor Rudolph Tegner, dating from the 1930s.

A correspondent of *The Times*, who inspected these "relics" in 1851 reported that "although the inhabitants of Elsinore seemed amused at the Hamlet cult of the time, which against all historical evidence insisted that the poor Prince was buried in Elsinore, few Anglo-Saxons could nonetheless bring themselves to resist being taken in by the tradition".

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 662)

- ACROSS
1 Monotony (6)
4 Dark red (6)
7 Veat (4)
8 Derision (8)
9 Penetrate (8)
13 Noah's vessel (3)
16 French military medal (5,2,6)
17 Married woman (3)
19 Custard (8)
24 Convict (8)
25 Indifferent (2,2)
26 Plump (6)
27 Rubber (6)



- DOWN
1 Kind (4)
2 Perilous (9)
3 Cone clasp (5)
4 Officer trainee (5)
5 Boulder (4)
6 Of suo (5)
10 Confused situation (3,2)
11 Sporting enclosure (5)
12 Rejoice (5)
13 Wicked (9)
14 Eager (4)
15 Worthless people (4)
18 Get to (5)
20 Showy (5)
21 Beg (5)
22 Stout stick (4)
23 Sullen (4)

SOLUTION TO No 661: ACROSS: 1 Canaan 5 Foli 8 Orate 9 Ongoing 11 Underlie 13 Tier 15 Panpharmacia 17 Cage 18 Wagon-In 21 Samurai 22 Vista 23 Only 24 Notary DOWN: 2 Award 3 Nec 4 Proliferation 5 Foggy 6 Initial 7 Hocus-pocus 10 Gargantuan 12 Ripe 14 Undo 16 Regimen 19 Loser 20 Day 23 Yet

THE TIMES DIARY

Pocket duty

Yesterday I broke the happy news that London is to be twinned with Managua. Today I have more good news. Londoners are about to finance, to the tune of £35,000, a Young Vic production of a play about the miners' strike which even its author admits is "biased". That the play - *The Enemies Within* by Yorkshire socialist Ron Rose - actually denounces by name two real-life miners who crossed picket lines has done nothing to temper the GLC's generosity. "We have a policy of not censoring plays," says GLC arts supremo Peter Pitt self-righteously. Rose himself is moved about the danger of inciting violence against the working miners. "We don't have any truck with scabs," he tells me. "When the play was on tour in the miners' welfare they used to shout the names of their own scabs. Yes, the play is biased and one-sided. Balance is for journalists. I'm a writer. No one asked Euripides about balance."

Pinned down

No longer will workmen ogle British Telecom girls: calendars sent out to construction sites to remind them to ring BT before digging holes where there might be cables. At its Blackpool conference yesterday, the National Communications Union formally condemned the calendars as "a blatant misuse of female bodies" and protested to BT. A great victory? Apparently not. BT has bowed to the pressure but laments the passing of an effective means of communication. Even Fred Nurse, the delegate who originally tabled the motion, protested that he had been forced into it. He had been "sexually harassed", he said, by feminist clerical workers in his Bedford branch.

In and out

A nasty dilemma for the true-blue Carlton Club. Will it or won't it offer membership to Gloria Hooper when she takes her seat in the Lords next week? She has already been a member once: she accepted an invitation from the chairman, Lord Boyd-Carpenter, to join after becoming MEP for Liverpool in 1979. Last June she lost her seat. When she applied in January to renew her membership she was told to her amazement that women can be members only if MPs, MEPs or peers. Her life's peccage was announced a few weeks later. "I imagine they will find it difficult to offer membership again having withdrawn it so rapidly," she observes. Would she accept? "I don't know. I'm now a member of an even more convivial club."

Market force

If you drink claret, drive a Volvo or shop at Sainsbury's - beware. The SDP, I learn, is employing a firm of American political consultants called Matt Reese and Associates, whose claim to fame is to have developed "the most sophisticated targeting and direct communication system to use" - in mail shots, telephone calls and door-to-door visits. Reese himself, who is principal consultant to the American Democratic Party and who has run campaigns for left-of-centre politicians throughout the Americas, first met Dick Newby, the SDP's national secretary, in Washington last year. He has been working for the SDP in a "limited" way for some months now, and was in Britain in May. What techniques he is teaching the SDP Newby will not disclose. "Our opponents would be extremely interested in what they are."

Fur flying

Claws are out at the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection. An extraordinary meeting has been called for Saturday to vote on the possible removal of seven committee members. The move would be retaliation for the sacking of three BUAV executives on March 31. The executives are still refusing to go even after the committee cut off their telephones and tried to padlock the offices. One of those dismissed, Margaret Manzoni, tells me she was victimized for spending too much time and money on the overtly political "Mobilisation for Laboratory Animals". In any case, Ms Manzoni insists, the committee meeting that sacked her was "illegal". The row has come at a bad time, when the union should be going all out in its campaign against the White Paper on animal experiments.

Ordered out

Peter Bruinvels has abruptly resigned as chairman of the Law and Order Society - the body he set up this spring, which is now gathering evidence to prosecute Arthur Scargill for alleged sedition. "I regularly experienced crises of conscience between what I did as a Conservative and Government MP and as chairman of the society," is all that the normally garrulous member for Leicester East will say. So let me give you the true story. Cranley Ouslow, chairman of the backbench 1922 Committee, Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, and Energy Secretary Peter Walker have all made it abundantly clear to Bruinvels, directly or through acolytes, that the society was divisive and he should quit forthwith. Tory MPs, he was bluntly told, should not be seen "dancing on Scargill's grave".

PHS

Barry Faotoni is on holiday

Julian Haviland on the embattled architect of 'open-sky' airports

Why Ridley will not be grounded

After Norman Fowler on Monday, today it is the turn of Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, to bear witness in the Commons to the government's claim to be a radical, reforming administration.

Ridley would not be every government's natural choice as advocate and publicist of an awkward cause. Today's main cause, the establishment of a new, competitive airports policy, is awkward enough. And many of the secondary decisions to be announced, including the planned increase in traffic at Heathrow and Stansted, are explosive enough to have frightened off ministers for 20 years. Ridley possesses no special urbanity or eloquence. He does not try to charm a political audience, even of potential supporters. More than once he has attempted what is intellectually right but politically impossible. In the accommodating world of politics this is not admired.

The Franks Report, on the background to the Falklands war, showed Ridley, as Minister of State at the Foreign Office, to have been one of the few to perceive and to warn his seniors in 1981 that if they would not discuss sovereignty with Argentina they must prepare for war. His seniors did neither, and proved him right.

Not every prime minister would

forgive such acuity; Margaret Thatcher, however, promoted him. For Ridley, it proved a useful lesson in the art of the possible.

Mrs Thatcher respects him as a fellow radical, and an independent thinker, who listens patiently to all advice but makes up his mind alone and then holds to his view with a determination not unlike her own. At Westminster, such a habit of mind seems a man apart. Ridley seems to have few close friends in politics and more than his fair share of critics - in the airline industry, the opposition parties, and the press, who confidently number him among the ministers to be sacked in the coming months.

The gossip is wrong. Mrs Thatcher has made it clear repeatedly that he has her firm support. Unless he makes a wholly unexpected back of today's Commons statement, of the subsequent campaign for public support, or of the legislation planned for next winter, he is secure in office until his task is complete.

But much is required by the Prime Minister of this relatively junior member of her Cabinet. The credit of the ascendant Conservative strain, of Mrs Thatcher's radical right, is heavily invested in Ridley's determination to liberate the market

in air travel, to the consumer's benefit.

Ridley, absorbed by the task he found awaiting him at the Transport Department, which he describes as "the last bastion of the planned economy", is wholly persuaded of the public benefits from deregulation of air, coach and bus travel.

He has needed this conviction and will continue to need it, over the airport issue, against the battle-hardened lobbies of environmentalists in the south-east and the industrial interests which push the claims of Manchester and the north-west.

His philosophical position is allied against both. You cannot in his view plant airports, like Japanese car factories, where governments want them. Nor can you force Londoners into Manchester-bound trains to fly to Paris.

But Ridley's intelligence and rationality qualify his instinctive dislike of such attitudes. He has accepted that Manchester needs new air services, has provided 35 or so and means to provide more. He is willing enough to subsidize new routes for the early years until the profits come.

So far his efforts have been directed at promoting competition among airlines. He has learned what pressures can be applied in a field

where his every decision is worth millions of pounds to somebody.

Last year the formidable Lord King of British Airways prevented legislation to take several routes from BA and give them to its rivals, as Ridley wanted. As many as 200 Tory MPs were lined up, pledged to block the necessary bill.

It took some skill, and a strong element of bluff, for Ridley to talk BA into handing its Saudi Arabian route, worth £18 million a year, to British Caledonian which, in his view, was thus established as a first-class, viable international carrier.

Today's white paper is the second and, in the Government's eyes, more important step: it aims to open British airports to the growing number of regional and local airlines and so let them grow faster.

Ridley's enthusiasm can sometimes sound naive: "We're trying to design a system where an airport is like a bus station or a taxi rank, where any operator can go and where passengers know they will find aircraft to go where they want."

But he has thought it all through; he will not be easily swayed. He has learned some political skills and may prove the man for the hour.

The author is Political Editor of The Times.

Nicholas Bethell urges a tougher line on Soviet censorship

Stamp out this petty tyranny

The Post Office is offended when it is accused of being an accomplice in oppression and is asked to pay large sums in compensation. It sees no connection between its friendly postmen and the KGB or between its work of collecting and delivering the mail and the determination of British Jews to help fellow-Jews suffering persecution.

Increasingly, though, human rights campaigners are making this connection. They say the Soviet authorities are failing to honour the international agreements on postal services and want to persuade the Post Office to take more active legal steps to make them comply. Foreign ministers raised the issue at an international postal conference in Hamburg last July and may do so again at the Helsinki signatories' current meeting in Ottawa.

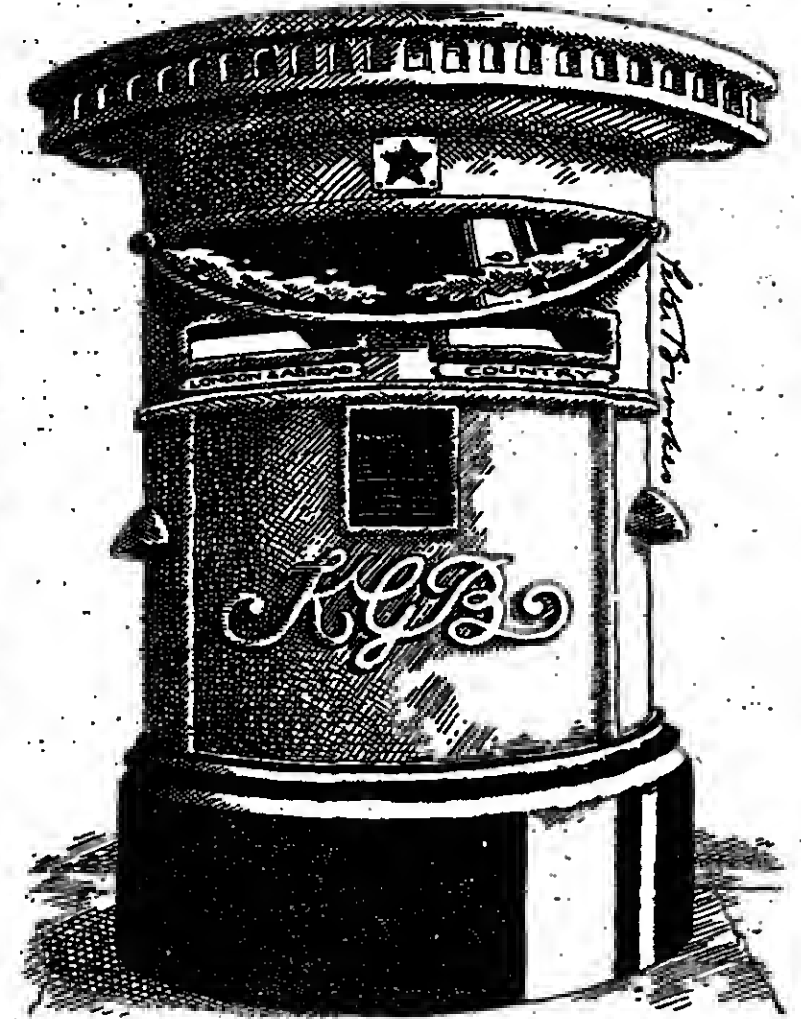
Jewish leaders have pointed out that the Holocaust was made possible only by isolating Jewish communities from the outside world. They say that, even under Hitler, a Jew had a better chance of survival, if he was someone abroad ready to support, and maintain communication with him, while under Stalin a person sentenced to forced labour without rights of correspondence usually disappeared for ever. Human rights are protected by communication.

They note that the Soviet Union has undertaken to observe the UN Declaration on Human Rights, which prohibits "arbitrary interference with privacy, home, family or correspondence". So they circulate lists of Jews who have been refused exit visas and invite people to write to them.

There is a recommended procedure. The sender should register each letter or parcel and pay an extra 20p for an "advice of receipt" card known as a CS. The card is sent to Russia with the item. If it is signed by the addressee and returned to the sender, he knows that the item arrived safely. Sadly, this is seldom what happens.

Sidney Gabrel, a surveyor from Ilford in Essex, is an expert in this. In recent years he has sent 335 books to Soviet addresses. Only a few were properly delivered, he believes. The rest were signed for with forged signatures or simply lost.

He did not send *The Gulag Archipelago* or anything like it. He sent prayer books or Hebrew-Russian dictionaries and then, in an attempt to test the limits of Soviet



censorship, copies of *History of Ilford, the Brick Manufacturers' Bulletin* and books of nursery rhymes. They did not get through either. He then asked for compensation for all the "lost" books. This is payable at £13 an item, irrespective of its real value. In 44 cases he got it, and the Post Office reclaimed it from the Soviet authorities.

The KGB does not like having to pay for the right to censor books, especially in hard currency, so it adopted a new tactic. Under the Universal Postal Union Convention (Article 36) the authorities may confiscate any items whose import or circulation is illegal. Material that could be construed as anti-Soviet would fall into this category and British users are advised about it in the Post Office guide. Almost all items sent nowadays to Jewish

"refuseniks" are confiscated, the Soviet authorities claim, under this article.

This is where the book senders quarrel with the Post Office begins. Although naturally opposed to the censorship laws, they admit the Soviet authorities' right, under the convention, to confiscate, say, *The Gulag Archipelago*. They do not admit their right to confiscate a dictionary or a *History of Ilford*. They say this is arbitrary discrimination not against the item but against the addressee, contrary to the convention, other international agreements and Soviet law itself. They want the Post Office to do something about it.

The Post Office is reluctant to get involved. What Russia does with parcels, one of their officials wrote two years ago, "is an act of sovereign

power which is not open to challenge by postal administration". The PO chairman, Sir Ronald Dearing, wrote in January 1984: "The powers of confiscation exercised by the USSR authorities are allowed for under the convention."

The book senders disagree. They are supported by Rosalyn Higgins, Professor of International Law at London University, who writes that "the onus is on the Soviet Union to show legal justification for its acts" and that to challenge the acts "would be legally permissible and appropriate in all the circumstances".

Fortified by this vigorous interpretation of the law, book senders from all over the western world are pressing the delegates at the Ottawa conference to raise the issue again and this time get some satisfaction from the Soviet Union. They ask how East-West relations can ever be improved if we cannot send each other harmless books and letters.

Sir Ronald sticks to his guns. A few days ago he wrote to me: "As long as the Russians abide by the letter of the UPU convention, which they do, it is difficult for us to challenge the validity of their replies." He does his best to persuade the Russians to be helpful, he says, but he cannot force them.

Professor Higgins disagrees. The British authorities hold certain Soviet funds, she writes, and these could be used to pay the compensation due to British senders whose items have, under the convention, been wrongly confiscated. Last week I put this idea to a Post Office legal adviser. She answered: "I don't think that I can comment on that. It is far too hypothetical."

It may not be as remote as she imagines. The Jewish book senders, distressed by the plight of their co-religionists in Russia, have kept careful records. There is a backlog of many thousands of "lost" or confiscated items. If they win one test case in a British court, their claims against the Post Office (at £13 an item) could run into six figures. Sir Ronald Dearing would be reluctant to find such a sum. His lawyers might then advise him to recover it from the London offices of Aeroflot and the Moscow Narodny Bank.

Lord Bethell is vice-chairman of the European Parliament's human rights committee.

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Peter Kellner

No one votes for coalitions

In the early hours of October 16 1964, one of the BBC's election night pundits - Ian Trethowan, if my memory is correct - was explaining the outcome of the previous day's vote. Labour was heading for a narrow victory; it would be unable to remain in power for a full parliamentary term. Trethowan summed up the electorate, he said, had decided to give Labour power, but only on probation.

As an assessment of the practical consequences of the election result, Trethowan was clearly right. Harold Wilson's majority was too small for comfort, and he had to call a new election 17 months later. But as an assessment of the electorate's intention it was nonsense.

Perhaps Britain was awash with voters who wanted Wilson on a free home trial, like a mail-order encyclopedia. Yet there was no way any voter could register such a preference. Not one candidate stood on a "Labour on probation" ticket. Not one poster promised: "Kick Labour out after 17 months if we fail to give complete satisfaction."

Many might have inferred from Trethowan's words that the narrow majority was a consensus decision, as 28 million voters. The fallacy is harmless enough when an election result is clear-cut. But when the electorate provides no clear winner, it can be dangerous. And that danger is already beginning to corrode discussion of what could happen after the next general election.

David Owen and David Steel have devoted great energy recently to explaining what they would do if the voters gave neither Labour nor the Conservatives an overall majority. They believe that they would be in a strong position to bargain with either Neil Kinnock or the new Conservative leader (surely Mrs Thatcher would have difficulty staying on?) and insist that "extreme" Labour or Tory policies be jettisoned in return for Alliance support.

The Two Davids' justification for such an arrangement goes beyond the purely practical need to form a government. If that were all that was required, the simplest solution would be for the largest party to form a minority government, as Wilson did in March 1974, and to hold a fresh election a few months later.

But the Alliance goes further. It says that if the electorate decides to give no party a Commons majority, that decision should be respected as a demand for coalition government. And if, for the sake of argument, a deal could be struck between Labour (representing say, 36 per cent of the votes cast) and the Alliance (say, 28 per cent), then a Labour-Alliance government would enjoy the backing of 64 per cent of the electorate. For the first time since 1935, when the Tories won 54 per cent of the vote, Britain would have real majority rule.

It is a seductive argument, but a false one. Far from representing 64 per cent of those who voted, such a government would not necessarily represent any of them. Nobody would have cast a vote for a Labour-Alliance coalition, for there would

be no candidate standing specifically for such a government.

Someone voting Labour might enthusiastically support Labour's commitment to stand down Polaris; someone voting Liberal might be captivated by the prospect of proportional representation. A coalition, that delivered neither the end of Polaris nor the beginning of PR would satisfy neither.

Nor would the position be altered greatly by an explicit Alliance statement in its election manifesto that it would seek to create a coalition government. For one thing, it would still be impossible to vote in advance for a clear coalition programme: the contents of that programme - not to mention the mix of politicians who would implement it - would not be known until the conclusion of negotiations after the election. For another, if (to take my notional example) 28 per cent vote for the Alliance, then 72 per cent would have voted for single-party rule against the Alliance and its demand for coalition rule.

There is a wider point. If the next election does produce a hung Parliament, it is possible to deduce what a majority of voters do not want, but not possible to deduce what they do want. Different majorities, in those circumstances, would not want any of the governments on offer. Since some kind of government has to carry on, the temptation is to fill this void by presuming that there is some solution that nobody has voted for but which a majority want.

There is no logical reason why that should be so. In a three-cornered contest it is equally likely that no electoral majority exists for any one party. If that is the case, it is more honest to ask how best to deal with the awkward truth, rather than to deny that truth and construct a government based on a lie.

A minority administration, far from being undemocratic, may well be the most democratic solution available. It could at least demonstrate the express support of 10 or 11 million voters - which is 10 or 11 million more than a coalition government could claim.

Worst of all would be an attempt to ask the Queen to sustain the coalition lie. This would happen if the prime minister of a minority government sought to dissolve Parliament and seek a new election, but was opposed on the grounds that the people had voted for multi-party rule. According to this argument, the Queen should "respect the voters' wishes" and insist that the politicians do the same; she should refuse a dissolution and demand that either Labour or the Conservatives come to terms with the Alliance.

No doubt Steel and Owen would press this argument with their customary vigour. It should be resisted for what it is: an updated version of the fallacy implied in Trethowan's words. The fallacy can do little harm when uttered in a television studio at four o'clock in the morning; but as a constitutional cage for trapping the Queen, it could do untold damage.

The author is political editor of the New Statesman.

moreover... Miles Kington

Where the apes are aped

Somewhere high up on the side of Gibraltar there is a plaque which reads "On this spot the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, in May 1954, stopped and looked out over Gibraltar". Personally, I doubt it. You can see a bit of Gibraltar from there, it's true, but what fills the eye is the enormous panorama of Spain opposite - the curling bay, the coiled mountains behind - and the stretches of Atlantic and Mediterranean on either side. This tremendous landscape is not just a view; it's a corner of Europe, the first glimpse of a land mass which won't stop till it gets to Siberia.

So I don't think the Queen confined herself to looking down at the harbour and murmuring, "Nice little dockyard you've got here"; but it's typical of the Gibraltarian mentality that they don't mention Spain on the plaque. Confined as they are to a small town and large rock, not to mention the bigness of Spain. Even the safety belt regulations seem designed to make the place seem larger: you don't have to wear a belt in town, but you must in the country. The "country" is half a dozen miles of open road.

Or was, until the Spanish authorities opened the border to cars on February 5, thus ending 19 years in which people went from Gib to Spain via Africa. The Gibraltarians have flocked out and the tourists have flocked in. I saw a policeman admiring a Honda 1100 bearing a CH international plate, and chatting to the rider.

"Where are you from?" he said.

"Denmark." How could a policeman not know that CH meant Switzerland? Then it hit me; he had never seen a Swiss number plate before in his life. All foreign cars had been kept out for 19 years, and the only crime he had dealt with was people crashing as they put their safety belts on and off, crossing from town to country.

Those who seem most delighted with the reopening of the border are the Barbary apes, who haven't had a proper audience for 19 years, but who can now put on a show for new spectators every day. A spectacular show it is, too, with tag wrestling matches, falls over precipices, jumps into trees with no safety net and family quarrels of the most picturesque ferocity which melt away into

salt-searching embraces. There is a plaque here, as well. "On this spot the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh stopped to make friends with the Barbary Apes." I'm not surprised. I thought they were wonderful. The apes, of course, are the true owners of the Rock, though there is a legend that if the British were ever to leave, the apes would leave too.

The Gibraltarians seem to have caught the ape's vivacity. "We are a country of chatterboxes," one told me, "because we talk in English but at Spanish speed. We speak both languages, of course, and never really notice when we are going from one to the other. Not good Spanish, though; it's Andalusian Spanish, which is bad to start with, and worse because we corrupt it. But who cares?"

This may explain why there are so many newspapers in Gibraltar - I bought at least three different ones. They were all bilingual, chatty with local gossip, and one of them had a single item of news about Spain.

There was also a new giveaway sheet at the airport, hailing the new influx of visitors and claiming among other things that bus fares on Gib are very cheap and that for a single fare, you can stay on a bus in Gibraltar all day long. As an inducement to exciting travel, this ranks with two other claims I have encountered in the past - one from Iceland saying that it's not nearly as cold as you might think, and one from Louisiana saying that "not many people realise that Baton Rouge is also famous for its dirt".

It's a funny, sleepy, cock-eyed place, Gibraltar, but I liked the quirky provinciality of it. I liked the sensational St Michael's Caves. I liked having swordfish again. I liked the blue-shirted English bobby at the border post, listening impassively as his brown-capped Spanish counterpart gesticulated madly. I liked the comment in the visitors' book of the Rock Hotel: "What most pleases me about the Rock is its atmosphere of gentle charm."

I tell you something - I'd rather have a day out in Gib than Tangier. I got caught in a day tour of Tangier last week which was living hell. Nothing very colourful about Tangier - if you're looking for somewhere exotic, go to Gibraltar for the day - but spend the next fortnight in Spain.

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Can the West still live with Papandreu?

Athens Just before Sunday's election, Athenian conservatives would retell with great relish the joke about the young reporter who went out to a small mountain village to investigate conditions under the Socialist Party regime. "And what is the main problem here, Grandpa?" he asked the old peasant woman whose face was clouded with concern. "Brecht, my son," she replied, "Brecht."

The quality of culture that the Greek Socialist party Pasok has brought to the villages may leave much to be desired. But little do the conservatives, watching the rest of the nation from the comfort of the cities, suspect how much the peasant's self-esteem has been bolstered by signs that somebody cares for him. Pasok has certainly given him things to think rather than to brood about.

There is no doubt now that the steadfast allegiance of rural voters was a key factor in Andreas Papandreu's victory. In the cities the downward trend, first revealed in last year's European elections, continued, but was more than compensated for by the sudden shift of Communist support to avert the threatened comeback of a "revanchist" right.

The gradual elimination of the gendarme's bullying control was crucial in shaping the election result. In the villages it was achieved through the party's physical presence, in the cities through Papandreu's systematic conquest of the country's nerve centres.

Above all the rural voter appreciates that the Socialists fulfilled one key promise to the farmers, who still account for nearly a third of the population - to secure higher prices

for their produce. This was largely achieved by the inflow of money from the EEC. The opposition conservatives of New Democracy, for all their promises, failed to convince the Greek peasant that they offered a credible alternative.

One danger of Pasok's second four-year term is that the despotism of the gendarme might be replaced by that of the local party official. Even before the election there were signs of a creeping arrogance of power that Papandreu himself has often deplored.

The election results show that in the cities Pasok continued to squander its popularity through inefficiency. If it were not for Communist votes and the benefits of an electoral system which polarizes choice, it might not have won.

The EEC's magic wand has yet to reach the cities, where economic and social problems are aggravated by the government's desultory policies. It is there that one out of 10 of the country's 3.5 million workforce is unemployed, where inflation still takes a hard bite out of pay despite an automatic but short-changed wage indexing, and where the chances of economic recovery are marred by lack of investment and declining productivity.

The prospect of four more years of coexistence with Papandreu's regime is likely to force Greek businessmen into seeking some modus vivendi to stimulate the economy. This would be to Papandreu's advantage if he wants to avert the danger of being forced to bow to strictures from the International Monetary Fund.

Papandreu is expected to continue to avoid any action that might



Papandreu: how far can he go to the left?

discourage the West from upholding both its economic and military support to Greece. He still needs western bank loans to keep the economy going, and still relies on the Nato and the US to help him keep at bay what all Greeks see as encroachments by Turkey on Greek sovereignty.

Ankara has been avoiding any move that might have played into the hands of an electioneering Papandreu whose strongest card, perhaps, is his defiant patriotism. Now that the election is over, hardly any holds are barred. The first echoes from Turkey indicate a hardening of attitudes, matched by Papandreu's campaign declaration that he would accept no dialogue with Turkey until all Turkish troops

are withdrawn from Cyprus. In his closing speech at the Athens rally last week, he told an enthusiastic crowd that if such a stand created the danger of war with Turkey, then Greece was ready. "Peace," he added, "is not conquered through concessions."

Poor relations with Turkey breed tension with Nato and the US since both are usually blamed for failing to restrain the Turks. Papandreu made reassuring noises in an interview with the *New York Times* last week by promising "calmer seas" in his relations with the West.

The Americans seem confident that nothing is likely to change during Papandreu's second term of office because of Greece's dependence on the West, even if the stream of anti-American abuse is heightened now that Pasok's clientele has clearly moved to the left. They seem to hope that when the time comes in mid-1988 for his government to exercise its option to ask the Americans to remove their military bases from Greece, the minimum of \$500 million a year that this would cost the Greek economy would tip him in favour of a tacit renewal of the lease.

The difference this time, however, is that one of Papandreu's constraints - ex-President Karmanlis - is no longer there to deter him from threatening to exercise his new constitutional prerogatives. With a masterful manoeuvre at the right time, Papandreu got rid of this obstacle. Many Greeks suspect that, when and if the circumstances are right, he would do the same with the remaining constraints that block his way towards the objective of a fully socialist and non-aligned Greece.

Mario Modiano



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SLOW MOTION, BIG DECISIONS

It is eighteen years today since the outbreak of the Six Day War in which Israel conquered the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of the Jordan. One more year, and Israel will have lived as long with those territories as she had previously lived without them. Put it another way for the Palestinians they will have lived as long with their whole country occupied by Israel as they had previously lived with only part of it.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir - Israel's foreign minister, deputy prime minister, former prime minister and, if the present government stays together until October 1986, future prime minister - naturally does not see it that way. As leader of the "revisionist" Peret party he sees the whole country, and in theory the East Bank of Jordan too, as simply the Land of Israel, and the Palestinians as entitled at best to some entrenched minority rights within the Jewish state.

So, as he evidently explained to Mrs Thatcher at Number Ten yesterday, he is not interested in talks with King Hussein and the Palestinians about the terms on which Israel might withdraw from all or part of the occupied territories. He sticks by the letter of the Camp David accord (which he voted against in 1978) and is willing only to talk about Palestinian autonomy within a context of overall Israeli control, and without prejudice to the territories' long-term future.

But does he really speak for his government when he says so? Of all issues this is the one on which Israeli opinion is most sharply polarised. Opinion polls register a fairly constant 50 per cent of Israelis favouring territorial concessions on the West Bank as the price of peace. The Labour party, headed by the present prime minister Mr Shimon Peres, has always argued in favour of such concessions in principle, arguing that Israel as a Jewish state cannot permanently assimilate the one and a half million Arabs of the territories.

The argument has until now been academic because there was

no Arab party ready to discuss the matter in direct negotiations. King Hussein could not do so on the Palestinians' behalf, since the Arab world had designated the Palestine Liberation Organization as their sole legitimate representative. The PLO, committed in principle to Israel's abolition, was not acceptable to her as an interlocutor as long as such a principle is held; nor was her chief ally, the United States, prepared to urge it on her as such. And the PLO was in a position to veto the participation of any other even remotely credible Palestinian representative. Be he West Bank mayor or Georgetown professor, he knew that without the PLO's seal of approval he would lack even the credibility of a Ba'ath or a Muzorewa; and would be in danger of his life.

But we may now be getting near the point where the argument in Israel can really be joined. Last week King Hussein told President Reagan that he and the PLO had agreed that negotiations could be held between a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation and Israel on the basis of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, at the invitation of the five permanent members of that Council (that is, the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China). Resolution 242, it will be remembered, acknowledges "the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries".

It is officially accepted by Israel as a basis for negotiations, and the US has long made its acceptance the condition of any dialogue with the PLO. The PLO has hitherto hedged, arguing that 242 was vitiated by its omission of any reference to the Palestinian people except in the guise of "the refugee problem". But, the offer that King Hussein brought with him this time was in writing, and countersigned by all eight members of the PLO executive. We need to see the

document before one can judge how much hedging remains.

The Reagan administration, which has approached this whole affair with extreme caution, was sufficiently impressed to be willing to envisage a meeting with the proposed Jordan-Palestine delegation, though the identity of the Palestinian members of it is still under discussion. Knowing the strength of Israeli feeling about the PLO, the Americans would still prefer their Palestinian interlocutors not to be explicitly identified as PLO members. They are also unhappy about the role which the King, presumably in the hope of blunting Syrian disapproval, wishes to give to the Soviet Union - though this role is so exiguous that it is rather unlikely Mr Gorbachov will be interested in it, and any interest he might have felt will probably have been dampened by the detailed list of proofs of "constructive behaviour" in the Middle East which the State Department spokesman invited him to give in a statement last Thursday.

If the American-Jordanian-Palestinian meeting comes off it will clearly be intended by both sides as a prelude to direct Israeli-Arab negotiations, though much will depend on the credibility of the Palestinian statements. These are the very methods which Israel has always canvassed as the only proper ones for resolving the conflict. Mr Peres, though he may play hard to get for tactical reasons, will surely be anxious to take up the King's offer, and may not be too sorry if he fails to carry his foreign minister along with him. Mr Shamir, after all, is cast as Mephistopheles to Mr Peres's Faust. At some time before October 1986 Mr Peres will want to part company with him, and invite the electorate to judge between them. The two sides are approaching decisions they have avoided for nearly 40 years. We should not demand, or expect the earth from Israeli or Palestinian in what will be a long and delicate process.

BONN'S BACK-BENCH BANNER BEARERS

The spectacle of a government which, after a rounding victory at the polls, finds itself embattled and faltering in mid-term, is a familiar one. But the particular difficulties of the conservative government in West Germany halfway through its electoral term demand some further explanation. The most obvious expression of these difficulties was last month's provincial election in North Rhine-Westphalia, where the Social Democrats took votes both from the Christian Democrats and from the Greens to secure an absolute majority of votes. But even before this startling result, the Kohl government was beginning to have an air of drift and uncertainty. In a puny where *Berechenbarkeit* (inadequately translated as predictability) is the highest good, it was beginning to look *unberechenbar*.

Chancellor Kohl has made it his business to emphasize Germany's reconciliation with former enemies, particularly on the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and public opinion polls suggest that his idea for President Reagan to honour the Wehrmacht dead at Bitburg was approved by most West Germans. But the controversy that arose around the Bitburg visit inevitably rebounded against him.

Chancellor Kohl's known to regard the continuation of Ostpolitik as a high priority. As Konrad Adenauer achieved the symbolic reconciliation with France, Germany's historic enemy to the west, as Helmut Kohl, "Adenauer's grandson", will make the Christian Democrats' symbolic reconciliation with Poland, Germany's historic enemy to the east. But neither circumstances inside Herr Kohl's own governing coalition nor any conducive to the realization of this goal. Indeed, West Germany today seems to have no one Ostpolitik but at least four: Herr Kohl's, Herr Genscher's (a

continuation of the Schmidt government policy), the Bavarian variant of Herr Franz Josef Strauss, and the anti-Ostpolitik of a significant faction inside the CDU and CSU.

If the Ostpolitik is in disarray the Westpolitik is also not in best order. By demonstrative loyalty to the United States at the recent Bonn summit and by visibly wavering between the American Strategic Defence Initiative and the French *Eureka* project, Herr Kohl is seen to have offended the French and brought into question the "Paris-Bonn axis", that sacred cow of West German foreign policy. Ex-chancellor Schmidt has written a melodramatic and ever so slightly self-righteous open letter, demanding that the Franco-German entente be restored to the cordial heights it reached between President Giscard and himself.

However unfounded the criticism - and the French pique - there is no doubt that this is acutely embarrassing to Herr Kohl. Inside the European Community, moreover, his government, which has been so vigorous in its advocacy of majority voting as the first step towards closer European integration, recently found itself in the extraordinary position of exercising the depleted right of veto, on the issue of cereal prices. In domestic politics one could produce a similar shortlist of contempts and inconsistencies.

This damaging confusion has resulted partly from long-term shifts in East-West and West-West relations beyond the control of any single political leader, and partly from plain bad luck. But the main cause is to be sought in the combination of the Chancellor's personal style of leadership with the fissiparous nature of the CSU-CDU-FDP coalition. Herr Kohl's Nelson touch - his matchless ability to ride out storms and blithely ignore profound differences

between his political allies - was a substantial asset in opposition. But in government it has more often been a liability. In government, the leader does sometimes have to insist that, for example, the sectional interests of Bavarian farmers will not be allowed to undermine his basic position in the European Community, that the ex-Silesian lobby in his own party will not be allowed to bring into question his whole policy towards the East, or that his foreign minister, his parliamentary party leader, his federal president and his Bavarian coalition partner will not all make foreign policies of their own.

So far no Franz Pym has actually raised the banner of revolt inside the CDU. But there are murmurs. Everyone is saying publicly that the government must improve the presentation of its policies. (Have we heard this somewhere before?) Later this month the three coalition partners will hold a summit meeting to try to restore a greater semblance of unity. Meanwhile, on the other side of the house, the SPD is beginning to think for the first time that it might just have a sporting chance of winning the 1987 election.

The SPD is meant to choose its candidate for federal chancellor by the end of this year. Strong contenders like the victor in North Rhine-Westphalia, Herr Johannes Rau, will soon have to decide if they want to take up the challenge this time round, or leave it to the present leader, Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel. They would be well advised to consider carefully. For, despite its air of drift and inconsistency, the Kohl government's underlying position is still extremely strong. We can think of at least one other European conservative government which would give its arm to have West Germany's current productivity - its matchless ability to ride out storms and blithely ignore profound differences

grant, available to prisoners, to bridge the gap until a payment is achieved from the DHSS. And this despite the fact that a remand detainee who has been in custody for a year or more may well have had his whole life ruined as fundamentally as a convicted prisoner.

Surely these people deserve better of a sophisticated society than this, and, if discharged from custody as innocent, merit as much compensation for the ruin, or of profound effect on their lives as possible. Yours faithfully, CHARLES PATTERSON, Director, The New Bridge, Room A, 1 Thorpe Close, Ladbroke Grove, W10, May 30.

Time on remand

From the Director of The New Bridge

Sir, I should like to support the urgent, entirely logical and repeated suggestions concerning the control of people on remand made by our distinguished member, Lord Hutchinson (May 28). When the awesome costs of dealing with remand detainees are considered, what could be more practical than his suggestion, inter alia, that they be quartered in "army" camps in such places as empty docklands near to the courts.

The waste of time by prison officers in escorting people to court is not only spectacular and hugely

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Implications in Powell Bill

From the Bishop of Thetford

Sir, The Archbishop of York writes to his letter to you today (June 3). Life is a continuum. There is no way of deciding on biological evidence alone whether a newly fertilized human ovum is or is not a human person. Nor are there any valid grounds on which Christians can claim that theology resolves the question.

It is for this reason that I support Mr Powell's Unborn Children (Protection) Bill. Since no one can say for certain of any point on the continuum, "This is not a human person", then surely we are right to protect rather than experiment.

Yours faithfully, TIMOTHY THETFORD, Rectory Meadow, Bramerton, Norwich, June 3.

From Professor Emeritus Sir Douglas Black

Sir, Support for the Powell Bill may be based on one or more of three misconceptions, which may be outlined thus:

1. It is possible to categorise research by its stated purpose.

2. Sufficient knowledge is already available to give optimum help to infertile couples.

3. Immediately after fertilisation, an "embryo" can be distinguished.

To comment briefly on each:

1. Biomedical research is a continuum, and the nature of the research from which relevant advances may flow cannot be predicted in advance. To put a whole area of research "out of bounds" carries a cost which is unpredictable.
2. The present success rate for infertile couples is gratifying as a tribute to past research; but for progress in the future it must be nourished by further fundamental research.
3. For the first two weeks after fertilisation of the human ovum it is not possible to tell which of the dividing cells (if indeed any of them) will form part of an embryo. To speak of this pre-embryonic stage as an "unborn child" is at best inexact.

By becoming a member of the interim voluntary licensing authority set up by the MRC (Medical Research Council) and RCOG (Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists), I subscribe to the need for regulation in this exceptionally sensitive area; but any legislation must be considered in detail, and based on premises which can withstand critical examination.

Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS BLACK, The Old Forge, Duchess Close, Whichurch-oo-Thames, New Reading, Berkshire.

The ironies in Lebanon

From Mr Dilip Hiro

Sir, To the list of ironies in recent Lebanese history (feature, May 31), we should add the following. During the Lebanese civil war of 1975-76, Imad Mousa-Sadr, the leader of Lebanon's Shia Muslims, decided to form a militia, Al Amal, to protect his followers. The organization which armed and trained Al Amal was none other than Yasser Arafat's Al Fatah, the leading constituent of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

On a more serious plane, with Christians reduced to a minority in Lebanon it is only a matter of time before the republic has a Muslim president. Since Shites are the largest sectarian group among Muslims in the country, a Muslim president is more likely to be Shia than not.

Shites should be expected to be the dominant confessional group in Lebanon of the 1990s just as Maronite Christians have been since the founding of the state in 1920 by the French.

Yours faithfully, DILIP HIRO, 31 Waldegrave Road, Ealing, W5, June 1.

A Rolls in Russia

From Mr John Williamson

Sir, Some years ago, when President Brezhnev was in power, our firm supplied upholstery leather for the top official cars in Russia and one of the sections of the contract stated that "the quality of the leather has to be up to the standard of that supplied to Rolls-Royce, or better".

Yours faithfully, JOHN WILLIAMSON, J. J. Williamson and Sons (Canterbury) Ltd., St Mildred's Tannery, Canterbury, Kent, June 1.

Violations of human rights

From Lord Devlin

Sir, Your leader on Strasbourg law is timely. The Convention on Human Rights contains an admirable statement of abstract principles. The administration of those principles in particular situations often involves questions of policy.

Because of this, in all systems of administrative law, European as well as English, the courts allow to the persons or bodies who have to apply the principles a large measure of discretion. This is the more necessary when the court is composed of judges of different nationalities who, as you delicately put it, are "variably acquainted with the political temper of British society".

Until the Strasbourg court becomes more conscious of this limitation on its activities, British governments should be wary of attending too closely to its pronouncements.

Yours faithfully, DEVLIN, House of Lords, June 1.

From Mr Cosmo Russell

Sir, Your leading article, "Strasbourg law" (June 1), refers fleetingly to the absence of an effective remedy for violations of human rights according to the Convention and although you state correctly that this is provided textually by article 13 - "Everyone whose rights and freedoms as set forth in this Convention are violated shall have an effective remedy before a national authority notwithstanding that the violation has been committed by persons acting in an official capacity" - you do not mention that the United Kingdom and indeed other governments who have signed the Convention have ignored article 13 entirely. The UK Government have always maintained that the rights as set forth receive adequate protection under existing law.

Experience has shown the contrast in only the cases you instance where judgments of the latter to domestic English courts, since that would be to nationalise the evil rather than remove it.

Yours sincerely, CHARLES P. REED, 51gham House, Bethesda House, Beckenham, Kent.

Future of universities

From Mr J. P. Foulkes

Sir, The figures in Mr Schattman's letter (May 25), showing UK university student numbers as only half of the EEC average, confuse in one very important respect: some like 99 per cent of those 9,000 UK students will graduate, whereas in other EEC countries only 30 per cent to 50 per cent of the students achieve degrees. We do not lag behind our EEC partners in producing graduates.

In a number of countries he named, entrance to university is automatic, given a qualification akin to A level; the process of "winning out" begins at university, since the weaker and less industrious fail university examinations and leave. Entry to UK universities is competitive - using procedures often palpably unjust and totally mystifying to the non-UK pupils in this school - but in many institutions the only way not to graduate is to commit a criminal offence. In this respect UK universities are "cost-effective" and "efficient".

If we are not producing the right graduates for the 1980s the fault surely lies in widely held national

An impossible crime

From Mr P. J. Harrison

Sir, The guilt or otherwise of someone attempting to commit what turns out to be an impossible crime ("Offending against common sense" (May 28)) will no doubt trouble lawyers and moralists as much in the future as it has in the past. Realising that there could be no "correct" unanimously agreed answer, Parliament was surely to be applauded when it legislated in 1981 specifically to clarify the law in this area.

Dr Scruton may find it "instructive and agreeable" to sell the desirable certainty matched away by an academic's quibble, a draftsman's laxity and the Law Lords' decision; those working daily in the magistracies' courts - the real "midwives" - I suggest would not.

Yours sincerely, P. J. HARRISON, St John's College, University of Durham, Old Shire Hall, Durham.

London's airports

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter

Sir, As the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation responsible for the decision in 1954 to develop Gatwick as a major international airport, may I reply to the criticisms of that decision, and of those who made it, contained in the letter you published today (May 31) from the county planning officer of the West Sussex County Council.

That officer is wrong on two plain issues of fact. He says that "the arguments against an international airport at Gatwick were heeded in the 1950s". They were heeded, but they did not prevail.

As in the case of all such important governmental decisions, the points against the proposal - mainly of an amenity character such as were to be expected from a pleasant residential area - were, in our consideration, balanced against the requirements of civil aviation development. The advantages of Gatwick included efficiency of air traffic control in relation to approach paths to Heathrow, a different weather pattern to Heathrow, confirmed by observations over some years, and access to a main-

line railway to central London. It is also quite untrue to say that those who took the decision were unaware of forthcoming developments in civil aircraft. We probably knew as much about these as the West Sussex County Council and in fact larger aircraft, such as the splendid if belated Bristol Britannia and the Boeing 707, were already in the air, and the Boeing company had made no secret of their intention to develop even larger aircraft.

Gatwick was designed, as the planning officer admits, as a two-runway airport. Experience throughout the world has shown that a minimum of two runways is a basic requirement for a major airport.

Baroness Burton of Coventry (May 23) of whose devotion to British civil aviation and the needs of the air traveller I have good reason to be aware, is fully justified in protesting against the maiming of an airport in whose development so much capital has been invested and which is the home of several important airlines.

What is depressing - and I think must be particularly depressing to the ratepayers of West Sussex - is that it appears that their county planning officer regrets the develop-

ment of a dissatisfied party it is clear that both might have been helped by the further valuable packet of jurisprudence arising from a national Court of Human Rights and its judgements.

It would seem that proper implementation of article 13 would now be the simplest and most effective and economical way of ensuring the harmony of the Convention with British law and practice and conversely of spotting gaps in the system.

Yours, etc, COSMO RUSSELL, Parapet House, Lenham, Kent.

From Mr C. P. Reed

Sir, Lord Devlin once said that the British have no more wish to be governed by judges than they have to be judged by administrators. Yet government by judges is now taking place, as a result of successful petitions to the European Court of Human Rights.

The wide terms in which the European Convention is drafted means that the European judges must define the boundaries between conflicting rights. Inevitably they are faced with uncomfortably contentious policy choices. Those who argue for the incorporation of the European Convention into domestic English law are advocating the politicisation of our judiciary. If our citizens or residents dislike "oppressive" or "harsh" or "inhuman" immigration laws they have many political means by which to protest against such laws, and a political forum (Parliament) in which to challenge and overturn such laws.

However, if they lose in the political arena, they should not expect unrepresentative and unaccountable judges to act as a sort of court of appeal from Parliament. The fact that this expectation is now being realised through petitions to the European Court is an argument for transferring the powers of the latter to domestic English courts, since that would be to nationalise the evil rather than remove it.

Yours sincerely, CHARLES P. REED, 51gham House, Bethesda House, Beckenham, Kent.

attitudes to science, technology and the humanities, and the broader curriculum envisaged for future generations of sixth-formers may help to dispel the guilt we feel if we encourage pupils to favour science and technology degree courses.

The French may be regarded as cynical in terming their arts baccalaureate (Bac A) "le bac des chômeurs" - a "bac" leading to unemployment - and in fighting tooth and nail for their children to do the maths/science bac; but the science student in France does not lose out compared with the humanities at the age of 15 or 16, as his English equivalent does, since literature, philosophy, history and foreign languages remain compulsory ingredients of the bac course.

Such a curriculum framework (as in this school with the European baccalaureate) removes an unnecessary defensive line on the humanities. The sooner it comes, the better! Yours faithfully, J. P. FOULKES, European School, Culham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, May 25.

Keeping up in maths

From the Reverend Dr Kevin Keohane

Sir, May I add even further gloom to the distressing picture which Dr Ruthven paints in his letter today (May 28) on the recruitment of scientists and mathematicians to post-graduate courses of training for the teaching profession.

The figures which I have just received for the national recruitment to teach physics at secondary level are even more alarming than I had supposed. To date there is only one candidate in the whole country applying to be admitted to a Bachelor of Education course in physics in 1985, compared with 1,454 in physical education.

Could it be that we are putting our effort into winning the next Olympics rather than a Nobel Prize? Yours sincerely, KEVIN KEOHANE, Grove House, Roehampton Lane, SW15, May 28.

From Mr Richard Wilkinson

Sir, Mr Stewart's comments (May 31) on over rates in the 1878 match between the MCC and the Australians are based, I believe, on a false assumption of six-ball overs. The first 30 Tests were played with only four balls to an over, and I suspect that this also applied in the 1878 match.

Re-calculation produces the equivalent of 44 six-ball overs in two hours, which, while admittedly fast by today's standards, would not be remarkably so - except that the two hours apparently also included luncheon!

Yours faithfully, RICHARD WILKINSON, 88 Surbiton Court, Surbiton, Surrey, June 1.

Janus effect

From Brigadier J. H. P. Curtis

Sir, You will know, I doubt, that when a Scotsman doubts that something will happen he in fact expects that it will.

Yours faithfully, PETER CURTIS, Inshriach House, By Aviemore, Inverness-shire.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 5 1913

Emily Davison died on June 8. At the inquest a verdict of "misadventure" was returned. The coroner said that it was evident that she had not made especially for the King's horse; her intention was merely to upset the race.

DERBY DAY TRAGEDY.

THE SUFFRAGIST SCENE. HIS MAJESTY'S JOCKEY INJURED.

The vast crowds round the corner had been following the race with the usual tense excitement, and the horses had reached Tattenham Corner when the King's horse was seen to fall. A woman had broken down from the crowd at the rails, had dashed across the course, and had placed herself in front of Armer. She held both her hands above her head, but the opinions of spectators differ as to whether she seized or touched the reins. At all events, Harbert Jones, the jockey, was unable to avoid the woman, and she was knocked down and seriously injured. Armer, in his fall, carried head over heels, and rolled with the jockey underneath. The horse quickly sprang up again, and as one of the rider's feet was still fixed in the stirrup, he was dragged along for some yards. Both the jockey and the woman were picked up unconscious, and the former was conveyed on a stretcher to the weighing-room while the latter was taken to the Epson Cottage Hospital. Her injuries consisted of slight concussion, cuts and bruises on the head and body, and an injury to the arm.

At the Epson Cottage Hospital it was found that the woman's clothing bore the name of "E. Davison." Although up to a late hour last night no one had called at the hospital to give any information as to her identity, it is believed that she is Miss E. W. Davison, who has been prominently associated with the Suffragist movement.

Miss Emily Wilding Davison, according to the "Woman's Who Who," joined the W.S.P.U. in 1906. She was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for a disturbance at Linschows restaurant, and after hunger strikes. In the same year she was sentenced to a similar term for stone-throwing in Manchester, but was again released after hunger strike; a little later she was imprisoned with hard labour for stone-throwing at Radcliffe and was forcibly fed. She was released at the end of eight days. In November, 1910, she broke a window inside the House of Commons and was sentenced to one month's imprisonment for this offence. She was released in eight days.

NARRATIVES OF SPECTATORS.

A card of the Women's Social and Political Union was found on the woman, and the colours of the Union were tied round her waist. This evidence of her connexion with the Suffragist movement gave rise at once to the belief that she had deliberately attempted to spoil the race. Some people who were close by her at the rails expressed the view that she rushed on the course under the impression that all the horses had passed. Others expressed the opinion that she was crossing the course to get to a friend on the opposite side and fainted while she was waiting for the crowd are always willing to give the horses as much room as necessary. A police officer tried to stop the intruder ere she could reach the horses, but he was too late, and before the onlookers could realise what was taking place the woman had clutched hold of Armer's reins, and both horse and jockey had fallen to the ground. The general impression of those who saw the incident at close quarters seemed to be that the woman had seized the reins of the first horse she could reach - which happened to be the King's - not with the intention of disqualifying any particular horse, but of interfering with the race, and so spoiling the race as a whole. As far as the spectators could see, the woman was knocked down by the King's horse, but no other horse appeared to touch her. The incident, however, had a disconcerting effect on the other jockeys, who turned round in their saddles at the untoward occurrence. It appears that immediately after the woman fell a placard bearing the words "Votes for Women" was raised by somebody in the crowd, suggesting that the whole thing had been prearranged.

A spectator who watched the race at Tattenham Corner states that the leaders had rounded the corner, when he suddenly saw a woman dart from the crowd, which at this point was of huge proportions. The duty of the police is as a rule, something of a sinecure when the race is being run, for the crowd are always willing to give the horses as much room as necessary. A police officer tried to stop the intruder ere she could reach the horses, but he was too late, and before the onlookers could realise what was taking place the woman had clutched hold of Armer's reins, and both horse and jockey had fallen to the ground. The general impression of those who saw the incident at close quarters seemed to be that the woman had seized the reins of the first horse she could reach - which happened to be the King's - not with the intention of disqualifying any particular horse, but of interfering with the race, and so spoiling the race as a whole. As far as the spectators could see, the woman was knocked down by the King's horse, but no other horse appeared to touch her. The incident, however, had a disconcerting effect on the other jockeys, who turned round in their saddles at the untoward occurrence. It appears that immediately after the woman fell a placard bearing the words "Votes for Women" was raised by somebody in the crowd, suggesting that the whole thing had been prearranged.

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Yours faithfully, PETER CURTIS, Inshriach House, By Aviemore, Inverness-shire.

Your W
can give us the help
so desperately need
fight against poverty
despair.

For God's sake

The Salvation Army,
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Street,
London E.C.4 at P

SOFTWARE/1

Variety the spice of micro-life

dology for tomorrow. In the mainstream computer applications business, the Japanese firm Canon has recently acquired a British company to furnish its software products.

In short the United Kingdom software industry is still healthy and competitive despite occasional setbacks and lean years. As the computer industry as a whole moves towards greater standardization, be it in communications protocols, machine-independent operating systems or else, the mainstay capability to produce high quality software should come increasingly into play.

David Guest

Tools such as the Workbench and program generators have revolutionized the mainframe.

Continued on next page, col 3

**FINANCIAL CRO
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Gimmicks galore in the games war

Gimmicks are the flavour of the month as those companies still in the business of producing home computer software fight to keep their heads above water.

What appeared to be a licence to print money only a couple of years ago now sees countless firms competing in a market no longer booming with even the largest companies trying to muscle in.

Getting in with the right crowd can win you shelf space. A spy game based on Frederick Forsyth's *Fourth Protocol* has, say its publishers, advance orders of 30,000.

Realism is another sought-after factor, say some publishers. Theatre Europe, the computer version of *World War III*, is based "on accurate information released by Nato, the MoD and informed Soviet military advisers", while somewhat less destructively a program called *Revs* "accurately simulates Formula Three at Silverstone Grand Prix".

The problems of the home software industry are as much to do with the number of companies trying to pump out successful software as with the end of the growth in home computer sales.

"Flat, calm and boring" is the comment of many software retailers when asked about demand. Their problem is to pick the next software success from the host on offer and as both retailer and customer buy

sight unseen a good gimmick can work wonders.

It is yet to be discovered whether those retailers who have opted for a tape called *Don't Buy This* - "contains five of the most uninspired games ever to disgrace the 48K Spectrum" - chose wisely, though the fact it was put together by British Telecom's

panies realized some time ago that while home software sales might be fairly stagnant in the UK, the rest of Europe is two or three years behind and there are rich pickings to be had for *Le Pao-Man* or *Die Space Invaders* - with the more visual games barely needing any translation.

Companies which banked on computer owners becoming

Whether it is a child learning to read or an adult brushing up on languages, home micros have appeal

software arm Firebird may have inspired faith.

This fight for shelf space can also be seen as a sign of maturity in the home software market as it attempts to ape the pop industry with a proliferation of software charts. After all, only a lucky few records end up as chart toppers.

more sophisticated and progressing beyond games and computer literacy have been sorely disappointed.

Such delicacies as programs to assist in cooking, gardening, weight watching, intelligence testing and home accounts were usually far more time and trouble than their more conventional alternatives.

One distinction is that while unsuccessful pop musicians can often return to daytime jobs, software companies which hire teams of full-time whizz-kids who fail to deliver a chart success can only survive a few such mistakes. Some spectacular bankruptcies result.

The smarter software com-

panies realized some time ago that while home software sales might be fairly stagnant in the UK, the rest of Europe is two or three years behind and there are rich pickings to be had for *Le Pao-Man* or *Die Space Invaders* - with the more visual games barely needing any translation.

Companies which banked on computer owners becoming

60,000, seems to indicate that despite the cheapness of advanced technology a mass market does not exist for the kind of uses currently on offer.

In the United States a combination of a higher disposable income among consumers and perhaps a little more of the self-help ethic has resulted in a thriving market for serious software in the home, but that is likely to take some years to cross to Britain.

could be a significant demand if software producers can develop high quality useful programs.

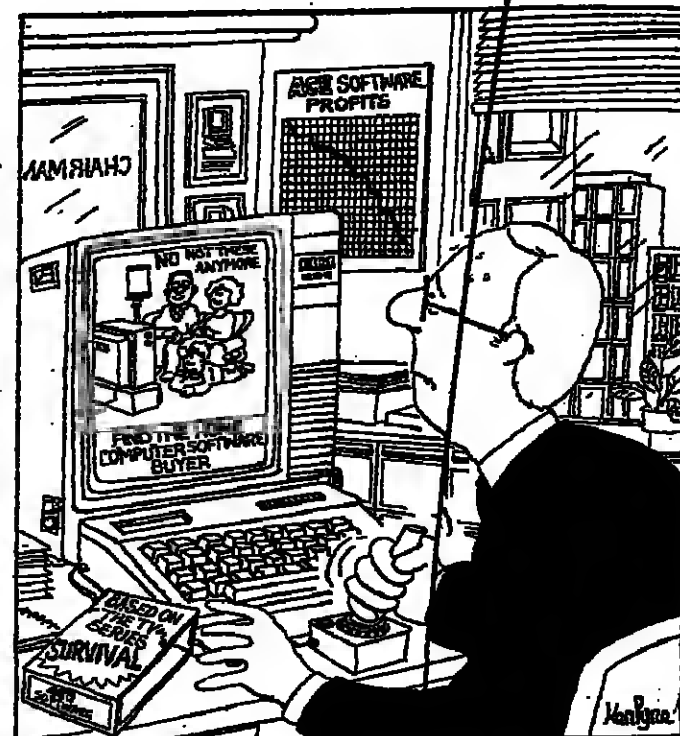
Home software is a buyers market and the problem of not seeing the contents of a program before you buy can at least be partly overcome by software reviews in magazines, though the best comprehensive coverage is the *Which Software Guide* (Consumers Association, £7.95). This gives a short description and rating of over 1,000 programs.

One area in which advanced home computers with larger memories should benefit is educational software.

Whether it is a child learning to read or an adult brushing up on foreign languages, home micros appeal as teaching aids, though the current software for home use is fairly dismal. This is at least one area where there

On the other hand, if you enjoyed the book and musical of *The Secret Diaries of Adrian Mole*, and think you might enjoy the coming TV series, then his secret diaries on computer, available in the autumn, could be just the thing.

Matthew May



Manufacturing control is only now catching on commercially, but what comes next?

Manufacturing control was one of the first computer applications to be developed, in the early 1950s, but only now is it gathering commercial momentum.

The engineering industry is expected to spend £200 million on software in 1985, most of it on standard software packages. Recession has forced manufacturers to trim their costs and profit margins, and many apparently have found that this can be done only with a computer.

Why auto is still on hold

Stuart Walsh, managing director of MSA: "We now sell one manufacturing system to every two financial



Digital Equipment Corporation, which already has a commanding lead in engineering manufacturing. COMAU and Renault are collaborating on a control system for small batch manufacturing.

Development representing 10 man-years' work is likely to cost around £8 million, but participants have agreed to supply 75 per cent of the funding themselves.

"As a lot of companies climb out of recession, the first thing they do is decide to spend money on manufacturing resource planning. We are now selling one manufacturing system to every two financial, and companies are beefing up their selection teams on manufacturing", said Stuart Walsh, managing director of MSA (Management Science America) in Maidenhead.

MSA supplies manufacturing packages bought in from Arista about 18 months ago, and Walsh expects them to generate one third of its turnover by the end of 1986.

Blackfriars-based Package Programs (PPL) invested at both ends of the computing scale in an attempt to scoop 30 per cent of this year's market. The PPL portfolio now includes a real-time manufacturing resource planning system for IBM mainframes from Praxis in Ireland, and the Uniplan micro suite from Sheffield Micro Information Systems, for which PPL paid £750,000.

the implications of the systems they were installing. Consequently a few experiments, such as that of Tube Investments, the maker of Raleigh bicycles, skirted disaster, and others' results were disappointing.

Many in the industry believe the Government should take an initiative, but little help has been forthcoming. The Department of Trade and Industry's CAD (computer-aided design) Test equipment Support scheme, which handed out £24 million in grants, came in for criticism because companies were allowed to use the cash to buy single items of equipment rather than subsidize installation of full CIM systems.

IBM, too, is now taking the CIM area more seriously and has formed an industrial applications marketing group, well as enhancing its MIPICs (Manufacturing Information Control System). A CIM demonstration centre is being set up in Warwick.

At the opposite end of the manufacturing process, CAD grew by 79 per cent in 1984, and is expected to increase this to 124 per cent in 1985. The number of CAD/CAM (computer-aided engineering) suppliers is increasing apace, from 20 in 1983 to 100 now.

Predictions of 30 per cent growth over the next four years have attracted nearly all the major package suppliers into the manufacturing field, most of them entering through acquisition. Control Data took over AMAPS (Advanced Manufacturing Accounting and Production System) from Comserv Corporation in February, and McCormack & Dodge bought Rath & Strong Systems Products in April.

None of these packages, however, performs the entire range of computer-integrated manufacturing (CIM) tasks from design through to production. They concentrate instead on the production control and accounting sections. Industrial automation consultants Ingersoll Engineers, in Warwickshire, recently attempted a survey of companies that had adopted CIM but were unable to find any.

The government-backed Esprit project offers support for system developers, but not incentives for would-be users.

There are 19 CIM projects on the Esprit programme, 13 involving UK companies, Logica, Olivetti, and Matra, among others, are engaged on a £5 million CIM development.

One enterprising company, American Chang, aims to drum up a turnover of \$50 million within five years, by importing European CAD software to the United States.

The smaller UK market is growing fast, but while manufacturers are prepared to take on computer systems offering immediate benefits, they are reluctant to jump headlong into automation. It would appear that the age of CIM is yet to come.

MMCL

"LEAVING THE SMOKE FOR SMITHS INDUSTRIES WAS LIKE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR"

Keith Witter, Software Manager



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Spice of micro life

From previous page

world, and radically changed development philosophy. Individually designed and hard-coded systems are out; databases with fourth generation languages have brought flexibility as well as speed to development. Because programmers don't have to start from scratch but can generate programs quickly from high-level routines, they can afford to scrap their work if it doesn't quite fit the bill, or if requirements change. Software houses can also use these techniques as shortcuts to new market opportunities.

McCormack & Dodge, for example, created the Millennium "umbrella development environment" for exactly that purpose and is about to reap the rewards. M & D's Bristol subsidiary is investing £1 million in converting ledger packages to run on ICL's 2900 and 3900 ranges, but marketing director, Phil Edwards, believes the cost could have been considerably higher, saying

"Millennium will enable us to cut development time by 75 per cent".

The secret is common to many commercial databases. A central data dictionary holds comprehensive information about data structures and their relationships, then programming tools feed off this to build applications. Companies such as ADR, Cullinet, ICL, and Oracle have surrounded their database nuclei with inquiry languages, application generators, report writers and communication links - a comfortably padded environment for programmers and users alike. Within this cocoon, they can even switch to different hardware without feeling too much of a bump. Switching cocoons, however, is another matter and perhaps the fact that users have been freed from hardware-dependence to fall into a software trap is a sign that Utopia is still some way off.

Maggie McLening

How can PC users fly solo faster?

To get the best out of their PCs, many people need constant expert help with their software. Real back-seat driving.

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Just 3 keystrokes gets you into Framework to start with. Then, with one finger near the HELP key, you can sail through Framework's manual. Spread out work side-by-side on Framework's screen desktop. Use its special Outlining feature to organise ideas as you work.

Menus and single keystroke commands help you to quickly manipulate text, numbers and graphics both on-screen and on paper. So impressive reports just fly together.

As IBM PC Update has said, "... Framework lives up to its billing. It is very powerful and unusually easy to use..."

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So send for our free demonstration disk. And take off on your own in no time at all.

To: Ashton-Tate Ltd., 1 Bath Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 2JH. Please send me a free Framework demonstration disk for my IBM PC (or compatible) ☐ Please send me details of Framework ☐

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MINIMUM HARDWARE FOR FRAMEWORK: IBM PC™ OR COMPATIBLE; 320K RAM; TWO 360K DISK DRIVES; MONOCHROME MONITOR (BUT COLOUR GRAPHICS CARDS FULLY SUPPORTED); PC DOS 2.0 OR SUBSEQUENT.

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A recently published survey by management consultants IDC, of the leading independent software suppliers, recognises Cincom as the most successful company in Europe.

Cincom is successful because its customers (and there are over 230 in the UK) are successful. Leading organisations and household names in British industry use Cincom software as an integral part in running their businesses and benefits worth £millions are frequently reported. Significant productivity improvements in Data Processing are commonplace with Cincom software playing a key role in managing and controlling corporate information, developing systems reliably, quickly and keeping users happy.

Just as Don Quixote had a quest, Cincom continues in its mission to provide companies with the highest quality range of integrated business software products. Cincom Quality does not stop at product excellence it is also that combination of people, attitude and service which produces a progressive and successful company.

To discover more about Cincom and its family of products, contact Marketing Services on Maidenhead (0628) 73044

the Cincom Quality

in Systems (UK) Ltd, St Ives House, St Ives Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 1QS.

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year price 1984
1	CEC	100
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Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS						
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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Market firm again

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 3. Dealings End, June 14. Contango Day, June 17. Settlement Day, June 24.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Money figures surprise everyone and no one

The May money supply figures took everyone in the City by surprise because, for once, they were bang in line with expectations. Sterling M3 was up by 1/2 per cent, in the centre of the range of market forecasts, while M0 showed its expected small decline, of 1/4 per cent.

So what do the figures mean for base rates? The answer is whatever one wants them to mean. The base rate cut school can argue that M0 is down on the month and only 5 1/2 per cent up on a year earlier, comfortably within the 3-7 per cent target range. The pound has been strong, despite oil price worries, the sterling index closing at 79.7 yesterday, and even this may partly reflect the fact that the foreign exchanges have already built in a base rate cut.

This leaves sterling M3 as the problem, but it is probably distorted, and two out of three is not bad, so bring rates down gradually.

The "keep them high" school, on the other hand, suspicious of official efforts to wean them off sterling M3, would still regard 11 1/4 per cent growth over the past 12 months, against a 5-9 per cent target, as excessive. Indeed, according to Peter Fellner of James Capel, 1/4 per cent monthly growth in sterling M3 is needed from now on if growth in the current financial year is to average 9 per cent, the top of the range.

Even on the less onerous requirement that sterling M3 growth slips back to a 9 per cent, 12-month rate by the end of the year, monthly increases must be no more than 1/2 per cent.

The "keep them high" school would also point to the fact that sterling has only held up well amid oil price uncertainties because they have not been a focus of market attention. In the run-up to the Opec meeting at the end of the month, they will be.

There are one or two clues in the details of the money supply figures which suggest that the likely course is a resumption of the cautious move to lower base rates. Bank lending, up £1.4 billion, showed the lowest rise since August. The "other counterparts", down £0.8 billion, fully unwound the unusual rise of April. Bank lending may do the same in the coming months.

The cautious approach may start with nothing more than Barclays and Midland moving to the 12 1/2 per cent base rate already charged by National Westminster and Lloyds. But it should be followed by a fairly early shift to a 12 per cent rate by all four, assuming that they have had enough of their game of leapfrog.

DTI in disarray over help for small firms

The move to eliminate statutory auditing of the accounts of small shareholder managed companies and to cut down the information required in the accounts of all small businesses came a stage further yesterday with the issue of a consultative document by the Department of Trade and Industry. This follows, and includes reactions to the report *Burdens on Business* which put forward these suggestions in March.

This cautious approach is a fair reflection of the DTI's getting itself into. The main trouble is that efforts to help small business by cutting out bumps are running along one set of rails while efforts to ensure that people take the privilege of limited liability more seriously, embodied to some extent in the Insolvency Bill, are running on another set of rails in the opposite direction. Likewise, new VAT rules, meanwhile, will press extra burdens on small traders.

This problem is exacerbated by the ever-widening definition of small business under EEC harmonization directives. This

may now include companies with assets of almost £1 million or sales of £2 million, way beyond the horizons of most people who would think of themselves as small businessmen.

In this case, the supposed aids to small business are ultimately misconceived, as were the earlier concessions whereby proper accounts need only be provided to shareholders and not filed publicly. If trade creditors and consumers cannot discover the substance or position of companies they deal with, the privilege of limited liability will not merely tend to be treated more cavalierly.

It will actually occasion distrust. There will eventually, by statute or by market forces, become two classes of company: those exempt will find that their status becomes a disadvantage in the market place.

The drive to aid small business in this way is also naive. Many small companies are, in effect, the tools of large unconsolidated businesses. This applies particularly to property dealing and development and financial dealing, where abuse would be nothing new and the need to protect consumers and creditors is particularly great.

It is vital to encourage the formation of new small businesses and help the overworked businessmen who run them. Efforts to devalue the accounts of small companies are a false economy of their time. If it really wants to help, the DTI should think again about any moves in this direction and persuade the Treasury to think again about the new VAT enforcement rules at present going through Parliament in the Finance Bill.

Runners and riders line up for Rolls

The City's top merchant banks must be feeling giddy dashing round Whitehall pitching for the latest plum privatization jobs. The last few weeks have seen the Government fire the starting gun for the British Gas and Britoil Mark Two sell-offs, and yesterday the Department of Trade and Industry appealed for runners and riders in the Rolls Royce privatization stakes.

The remit in this case is to provide "preliminary advice" on privatization. Rolls-Royce was in the last manifesto as one of the candidates earmarked for sale to the private sector. Both the Government and the aero engine group's new chairman, Sir Francis Tombs, have reaffirmed publicly that they want to keep to the deadline.

Whether selling Rolls-Royce proves feasible in practice before the next election is another matter. The asset sale and parliamentary timetable is filling up fast (legislation would be needed). The company itself still has a long way to go before it can be realistically presented as saleable.

The international aircraft engine business remains fiercely competitive and cash hungry. Rolls-Royce made a small net profit last year after a series of heavy losses; its best financial performance since it was rescued by the Health Government in 1971. It expects to do better in the next three years with the benefits of restructuring and labour-shedding.

But as Geoffrey Partie, the industry minister responsible, said yesterday, Rolls will need "a longer period of profitability" before it can be sold. Some kind of balance sheet restructuring is also inevitable. Grievous Grant, the stockbroker, estimated last year that Rolls-Royce could be worth £350 million. With the sale unlikely to happen much before 1987, a lot could happen to change the arithmetic.

Morgan Grenfell recruits from rival

By Our Banking Correspondent

Morgan Grenfell is understood to have recruited Mr John Holmes from Hoare Govett to be the top stockbroker in UK equities. Both Morgan Grenfell and Hoare Govett declined to comment yesterday. However, Morgan Grenfell is expected to make an announcement shortly about its plans in the securities market. It is among those

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
FT Ind Ord	1,020.2 (+9.5)
FT-A All Share	643.00 (+4.9)
FT Govt Securities	82.00 (+0.08)
FT-SE 100	1,336 (+12.00)
Bargains	19.245
Dataseam USM	108.15 (-1.08)
Dow Jones	1,312 (+1.91)
Nikkei Dow	12,589.31 (+109.9)
Hong Kong	1,643.35 (+2.10)
Amsterdam	212.5 (+0.4)
Sydney: AO	891.1 (-11.0)
Frankfurt	1,344.2 (-10.8)
Commerzbank	371.17 (-2.67)
Paris: CAC	232.0 (-0.5)
Zurich	361.50 (+1.7)
SKA General	361.50 (+1.7)
GOLD	
London: 315.25pm	\$315.85
close	\$315.50-318.246.75-247.25
New York	\$315.25
Comex (latest)	

Stock Exchange poised to allow outside ownership

By William Kay, City Editor

Both of the historic proposals voted on by the Stock Exchange yesterday were defeated on a show of hands by an estimated 2,000 members gathered on the trading floor.

The votes were being held to decide whether outside organizations should, for the first time, be allowed to own 100 per cent of Stock Exchange member firms and how the outsiders should pay for the privilege.

However, the defeats for the council at the end of last night's 100-minute meeting do not mean that its proposals have been lost.

A ballot-box poll was immediately called for by Sir Nicholas Goodison, Stock Exchange chairman. This poll

will be held today, between 11am and 4pm. That will ultimately decide the issues at stake.

An eye-witness said that most of the speeches at the meeting argued against the council's plans to admit outsiders.

There was also an attempt to have the meeting adjourned for three months so that, according to the proposer of the resolution, "the council can have more time to think".

But Sir Nicholas exercised his right to rule that resolution out of order.

After the show of hands on the proposals, Sir Nicholas told the meeting that 3,032 proxy votes had been received so far.

out of a total membership of 4,495.

These showed that more than 2,500, of 83.6 per cent, had been cast in favour of resolution one, for 100 per cent outside ownership. That also represents more than half the votes of the total membership, suggesting that the proposal will be carried in today's poll unless a substantial number of members decide to countermand their proxies.

So far, proxy votes are 79.3 per cent in favour of members' shares to be sold to outsiders. But this vote, unlike the first, requires a 75 per cent majority of those votes. If every member voted, this resolution would require 3,372 in favour compared with the 2,400 lodged in favour so far.

But Stock Exchange officials were confident after the meeting that today's ballot would be sufficient to carry the day. "If you wanted to vote against you are inclined to get your vote in early. We think the main vote in support will come today", a spokesman said.

These votes are part of the process whereby the Stock Exchange has undertaken to comply with a Government request that it should open its doors to outside competition and abandon its 74-year-old system of fixed commissions on securities transactions.

The new system is due to be in place by October next year, and at the latest by December 31, 1986.

Mercury links with AT&T

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

Mercury, the telecommunications network being developed by Cable and Wireless to challenge British Telecom's monopoly, yesterday made another significant breakthrough in its efforts to establish itself as a credible force.

It announced that it had reached agreement with American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) to provide a joint transatlantic service for private line voice and data transmission.

Under the deal, AT&T will distribute calls and data transmission from Mercury's British customers in the United States, and Mercury will perform a reciprocal service in Britain for calls originating on the other side of the Atlantic.

In immediate practical terms, the agreement will not achieve much, since it is confined to private leased circuits, typically between two offices of the same business on either side of the Atlantic.

The real breakthrough for



Sir Eric Sharp

Mercury will only come when it can offer its customers access to the ordinary telephone and data network in the United States, so that they can dial and send data to any destination.

Yesterday's agreement with such a key partner is bound, however, to be seen as further evidence that Mercury has arrived. AT&T is the dominant force in the American long-

distance telecommunications system.

A Mercury spokesman said yesterday: "AT&T is unique in terms of size and coverage in the States. We see this as a vote of confidence by the market establishment that Mercury is here to stay".

Cable and Wireless shares

rose by 20p to 57.5p. The joint statement by the two companies said that Mercury and AT&T "look forward to expanding this agreement to cover other international telecommunications services".

Mercury, which has been licensed as a rival network operator to British Telecom, is in the process of developing its own domestic grid, and is spending £20 million on installing switching equipment.

Cable and Wireless also announced yesterday that Mr Brian Pemberton, its youngest regional director, with responsibilities for its Far East operations, is returning to London to take up a new job as chief operating officer reporting to the chairman and chief executive, Sir Eric Sharp.

Banks press Britain to join EMS

From Bailey Morris, Hong Kong

Britain came under renewed pressure yesterday to join the European Monetary System (EMS) at a meeting of international bankers at which the pound's role in checking the dollar's rise was a matter of strong debate.

Herr Karl Otto Pohl, president of the Bundesbank, renewed his campaign at a meeting of the International Monetary Conference for British participation in the EMS which, he said, was essential to the strength of European currencies and to the power of the European Community.

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, responded by pointing out that over the past year there had been "greater attention" than ever before to possible British participation in the EMS.

The Governor said that two key Parliamentary committees were studying the issue of British participation.

Britain's role in strengthening the EMS was raised during a day in which western central bankers reviewed progress on international monetary reform ahead of the June 21 meeting in Tokyo of ministers of the Group of Ten nations.

The external pressure on Britain to join the EMS is also reflected at high levels domestically, banking officials said.

It is clear that, based on recent exchange market developments, the pound is likely to rise further above \$1.20, officials said. The pound in range of \$1.30 to \$1.35 would be a positive step but anything much beyond that would have a negative effect on British industry, they added.

IN BRIEF

\$600m bank issue flags

Barclays Bank yesterday became the last of the big four clearing banks to raise perpetual floating rate debt, which ranks as primary capital, when it launched a \$600m issue yesterday.

Lead managed by Barclays Merchant Bank, the issue pays interest at 0.25 per cent over the mean of six-month London interbank bid and offer rates. This is the same as National Westminster paid on its recent \$1,000m issue.

The Barclays issue, however, met a tepid reception in the markets yesterday, compared with earlier issues. This was attributed to the fact that so much of this type of paper has been issued recently - since late April British banks have raised \$3,600m through undated dollar floating rate Euro notes.

A Barclays spokesman said that the issue would boost the free capital ratio from 5.7 per cent to nearly 6.3 per cent.

Hanson up £42m

Hanson Trust has increased pretax profits for the half year to March 31 to £106.1 million from £64.4 million. Turnover rose to £1,479.8 million from £900.4 million. The interim dividend is 1.5p, against 1.16p last time.

Tempus, page 21

Norcross ahead

Norcros, the building materials producer, lifted full-year profits from £53 million to £34.3 million on turnover up from £349 million to £375 million. The dividend is 8.60p, up from 7.5p.

Tempus, page 21

Arthur Sanderson & Son, one of the most famous names in furnishing fabrics and wallpapers, is on the point of being sold by Reed International to an American company, West End.

Pepperell, Reed announced the intended sale of Sanderson said that negotiations with West Point Pepperell were at an advanced stage, after British companies withdrew.

Offices let

Capital and Counties, the property developer, has pre let part of its 170,000 sq ft office campus scheme at Chandler's Ford, Hampshire. B & Q Retail has taken 79,000 sq ft for a new headquarters in phase one paying £588,000 a year. Lesser Design and Build will start construction next month with completion due at the end of 1986.

De La Rue rise

De La Rue is paying a final dividend of 21.75p, making 30p for the year to March 31, after pretax profits rose from £37.3 million to £46.4 million.

Tempus, page 21

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TMBR

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Equities edge nearer to record highs on hopes for cut in base rates

By Derek Pain and Jeremy Warner

Hopes that interest rates will be cut soon, possibly this week, flowed strongly yesterday as equities advanced to within tantalising reach of their record highs.

With the money supply figures fueling expectations of cheaper money, the FT 30 share index surged 9.5 points to 1,020.2 points - just 4.3 points from its peak. And the more broadly based FT-SE share index advanced 12 points to 1,336.6 points.

There was an array of gains among blue chips. Guest Keen and Nettlefolds jumped 9p to 236p and Glaxo Holdings, as some brokers nudged their profit forecasts, rose 25p to 1,300p.

At the close, the FT 30 share index was up 9.5 points to 1,020.2 points - just 4.3 points from its peak. And the more broadly based FT-SE share index advanced 12 points to 1,336.6 points.

Even Plessey, the electrical group which has had such a rough ride since it announced unimpressive profit figures and British Telecom increased the competition threat with its bid for Cable & Metal Corporation, advanced.

The shares rose 8p to 152p as the market heard tales that Sir

to £4 better before the announcement, finished little changed.

Stores were again active. Debenhams edged ahead a few pence to 399p and Dixons Group notched a 7p gain to 724p.

Marks and Spencer gained 5p to 143p and Habitat 67 rose 4p to 290p. Others higher included Oxo, Price, Henry Wigfall and Ratners.

Elsewhere Blue Circle Industries hardened following the yearly meeting but Hanson Trust lost ground as interim profits, although sharply higher, failed to meet best expectations. The shares fell 8p to 230p.

De La Rue, on its profit figures and its decision to sell Security Express, jumped 50p to 925p. Norcross responded to a 4 per cent profit gain with a 9p rise to 174p.

Jaguar was in demand, ending the day 14p higher on balance at 288p. Cable and Wireless rose 20p to 575p on its telecommunications deal with the American AT and T group.

United Wire Group, where a bidder lurks, fell back 15p to 195p. The company has admitted that talks are on with an unidentified suitor.

Fading bid hopes trimmed Spear and Jackson, the garden tools group, 8p to 160p.

Thorn EMV fell 10p to 46p on the failure of the lung mounted bidder to materialize and bid hopes were again an influence at Davy International, up 6p to 108p.

Among breweries, Guinness in front of interim figures made more progress - up 4p to 281p. Mount Charlotte Investments continued to respond to the bullish comments from Fielding, Newson-Smith and Co, the broker, gaining a further 3p to 96p. Skanks, the Scottish leisure group, rose 3p to 65p.

Strong buying from Fielding Newson-Smith helped push Tesco up 13p though the shares closed below their best 9p up on the day at 270p. The stockbroker returned from the opening of the group's 100th superstore at Neasden, north London, on Monday impressed by the company's prospects and of the opinion that its shares should enjoy a rating that is closer to that of its high street rival, J Sainsbury.

Other food retailers were also in favour. Associated Dairies closed 6p higher at 166p, Bejam

4p higher at 170p, and Kwik Save was 6p better off at 216p. Dee Corporation, where several brokers have been revising up their forecasts of present year profits, was outstanding rising 16p to 268p.

That bid by Reynolds in the United States for Nabisco is putting new life back into the food manufacturing sector where there are regular bouts of takeover speculation. Cadbury Schweppes rose 3p to 161p. United Biscuits closed 4p higher at 197p and Tate and Lyle gained 12p to 478p.

Fears about a further weakening of oil prices after the

decision by Opec to call an emergency meeting for later this month, caused oil shares to fall across a wide front. Even

British, which has been firm on suggestions that British Petroleum will bid for the Government's 49 per cent stake which is due to be put up for sale shortly, was unable to resist the

trend. Its shares closed 5p lower at 226p.

Elsewhere, BP shed 5p to 528p and Shell Transport & Trading lost 3p to 69p despite soothing noises from a number

of analysts who pointed out that some oil companies will gain more on their downstream activities from lower oil prices than they will lose upstream.

Windsor Securities, the insurance broker, held at 60p, as the battle for control continued to rage. At a shareholders' meeting later this month resolutions will be put forward for the appointment of four new directors. The present board, headed by Mr Maurice Fullerton, consists of three directors.

Mr Fullerton regards the move as a "back door" takeover bid and is urging his shareholders to reject it.

But the prime mover, Lander Investments, which has insurance interests, already controls 14.9 per cent and, suspects Mr Fullerton, can call on other shareholders with some 20 per cent of the capital.

They include Mr David Kirch, the financier, who has this year acquired a 7 per cent shareholding.

The three present Windsor directors have 13 per cent and pledges of support have come from shareholders, accounting for 10 per cent. Clients of Laurie, Milbank and Co, the company's broker, have 23 per cent of the shares. Their attitude is clearly crucial to the outcome of the battle.

Should he be beaten, Mr Fullerton, who has turned the business round, could lay claim to the Windsor name. When the company was changed from Brentnall Beard to Windsor he retained the right to the name.

A bullish circular from Scrimgeour Vickers, the broker helped French Kier achieve an 8p rise to 168p. The broker has revised up its forecast of profits for this year from £18 million to £20 million and also reckons that the net asset value of the cash-rich construction group could be worth as much as 250p a share against a last published figure of 157p.

Scrimgeour believes that bid prospects from Trafalgar House, which recently bought back the 149 per cent stake in French Kier it sold four years ago, are in for nothing. Dewy Corporation, where Trafalgar also has a large share stake, was a firm market as well, rising 6p to 108p.

The market believes that Trafalgar has given up thoughts of countering a 360p-a-share management buyout proposal

for Haden the engineering group, and is casting around for alternative acquisitions.

Trafalgar received the last of the information on Haden that it had requested under the takeover code some days ago, and it is not now expected to extend its 240p a share bid beyond the next closing date of June 11.

Mr Tony Gover's expansion minded Goldsmiths Group, flush with the £7 million proceeds from selling its book-making business to Coral, has been pressing ahead with plans to do a significant deal in the leisure field through talks about a get-together with Management Agency and Music.

MAM, suspended with a price tag of more than £13 million while merger discussions take place with the privately-owned Chrysalis record company, confirmed yesterday that Mr Gover had made an approach.

"They were only brief talks and they were obviously interested in us but the figure we had in mind they couldn't come up to. Whether they are still interested we don't know," the company said.

Goldsmiths' shares went 2p better at 218p. The market is

convinced that Mr Gover needs to put together a deal swiftly before predators spot the potential in the business.

Last night Mr Gover commented: "Yes, we spoke to them but they seemed too far down the line with Chrysalis and no price was talked about. But the business does interest us, it is an area we want to go into. We are looking at the whole leisure scene and sooner or later we will do something but we are not going to pay a silly price."

There was strong activity on the London Traded Options Market with 11,642 bargains struck. British Telecom led the field with 3,448 deals.

TEMPUS

Hanson shares fall prey to undue optimism

Lord Hanson seems to be in control of so much these days that it might have been he who arranged for the bolts of lightning in the City yesterday afternoon almost as a judgment on those heretics within it who dared to suggest that the interim figures from Hanson Trust were disappointing.

Disappointment is not a word readily associated with Hanson Trust and if its chairman was in charge of weather yesterday then he was right to call for thunder and lightning.

The disappointment was not justified and, if anything, reflects undue optimism on the part of those whose estimates were closer to £115 million than £105 million. The reported pre-tax profits of £106.1 million were 65 per cent up on the £64.4 million a year ago and even after stripping out the first-time contributions from USI and an extra five months from London Brick, the growth is still very good.

If anything, the star performance came from British Ever Ready, which has been in the Hanson stable for some time. It lifted profits from £14.1 million to £18.5 million on a reduced turnover, with the increased margins coming from a better sales mix and continued attention to internal efficiency. It is an indication that Hanson can still produce organic growth and does not depend entirely on acquisitions.

This is not to devalue the importance of a successful acquisition policy, and finding the right business has been at the root of the group's progress. After the failure to pick up Powell Duffryn earlier in the year Hanson cannot be too far away from launching another assault on some neglected company, either at home or in the US.

The shares closed down 8p at 230p last night in recognition of the disappointment in some quarters. With full-year profits of £235 million in sight, any further weakness in the share price could present a buying opportunity for what is a sound long-term investment.

Norcross shareholders must be hoping to be rewarded for their patience. They have waited two years for UBM, which Norcross

finally bagged for £114 million last month after a hard chase. Sadly, shareholders' hopes are unlikely to be fulfilled in the short term.

Other builders' merchants report that UBM has been cutting prices drastically in recent months. Margins must be tiny. Norcross has already set about correcting this with an instruction to UBM outlets to improve returns. Until that order is carried out, Norcross could find its acquisition difficult to justify.

Norcross will not put large quantities of its manufactured adhesives, windows and handles through the UBM network. It will simply use the outlets as display cases. The group is, however, considering opening 12 new branches.

This year UBM will probably not improve on the £13.7 million pre-tax profit in the year to February. After financing costs the boost to Norcross this year will be only £4 million or so.

Norcross however, should show sizeable gains of its own, having advanced by only 4 per cent to £34.3 million in the year to March. It should eliminate £5 million losses in the engineering and construction businesses, and the tile making and printing divisions should again lift their contributions.

On combined profits of £45 million the p/e ratio is 8 and the yield 7.2 per cent with the shares at 171p. They are unlikely to get a rating until there is evidence of better margins at UBM.

De La Rue

Wildier spirits in the market latched on to De La Rue's comment about booming profits from its currency divisions ("Certain clients required unusual and unpredictable volumes of banknotes within a short period") and concluded either that it was a good year for South American flight capital or that world money supply, narrower definition, is growing too quickly.

But the group was at pains yesterday to deny the suggestion, insisting that last year's 47 per cent jump in profits to £33.1 million in the security printing side, stemmed from good demand from its broad spread of customer countries across the world. The group is

right to stress this point because of the way the security printing side now dovetails with the rest of De La Rue's terms of broad strategy. Good quality cash flows provide solid backing for the more capital-intensive Crosfield Electronics side.

The implicit assumption of such a profits mix, that extra funding will be needed at some point, also looks unfounded. On the one hand, De La Rue has been clamping down on working capital requirements. These grew marginally last year.

On the other hand, De La Rue also announced the sale yesterday of its Security Express side, because the division had no future to play in the group. A cash flow from the sales of £16 million, turning over to minute levels.

Yesterday's 35p rise in the share price to 910p comes after a period of calm in the share price performance, relative to the market. A 30 per cent rise in the dividend, and a notional evaporation of cash, raising fears, leave the shares with further in go. Bid hopes are in the rating for nothing.

Gifts

Yesterday's shock announcement of a new tax immediately after the money supply figures were announced suggests at the very least that authorities are in fine fettle.

Yet odd features about the new stock - £800 million of Treasury 10 per cent 2004 look intriguing. The stock has been issued direct in the Bank of England, a rare departure, and dealings begin tomorrow.

The authorities' anguished would only want to launch a new stock with such basic controls the decline in long yields, as base rate hopes rise. Hence the authorities may not be concerned to control the angle of backward slop in the yield curve.

The final payment tranche falls into baring July, when the authorities, under the new definition of monetary growth, will be facing comparison with last July's 2 per cent fall in EM3.

The combination of £1.5 billion from the British Telecom call, plus £470 million from the tap should take, the authorities a little closer to a good figure.

THE DE LA RUE COMPANY p.l.c.

Sales up by 24%
Trading Profit up by 39%
Earnings attributable to shareholders up by 29%
'Further progress confidently expected' Sir Arthur Norman, KBE DFC, Chairman

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

THOMAS DE LA RUE CURRENCY DIVISION

responded quickly and efficiently to abnormal and unpredictable demand and realised the benefits of working at full capacity.

CROSFIELD ELECTRONICS DIVISION

performed excellently, with some help from a buoyant US economy, and greatly increased its profits. The present technical superiority of Crosfield products engenders confidence in the future.

THOMAS DE LA RUE SECURITY SYSTEMS PRINT DIVISION

performed well and substantial new orders have been received as a result of quality improvement following the introduction of new equipment for cheque production.

DE LA RUE SYSTEMS DIVISION

showed a substantial improvement over the previous year without realising its full potential.

OPERATIONS IN COLOMBIA AND BRAZIL

achieved creditable results and made important contributions to Group success.

OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

produced mixed results but they all remain highly promising.

Exports from the UK at £178 million established a new record, as did also the levels of expenditure on capital account and on Research and Development.

Results for the year to 31 March 1985

	1985	1984
Turnover	£000	£000
U.K.	70,287	63,049
Export (including sales to overseas Group companies)	178,296	141,887
Overseas (after adjusting for inter-company sales)	88,417	66,867
	337,000	271,803
Trading profit before interest	42,481	28,125
Net interest payable	(4,012)	(464)
Trading profit	38,469	27,661
Share of profits of related companies	7,965	9,698
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	46,434	37,359
Taxation	14,601	12,141
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	31,833	25,218
Minority interests	1,787	1,945
Profit before extraordinary items attributable to The De La Rue Company p.l.c.	30,046	23,273
Extraordinary loss (after taxation)	(5,113)	(5,351)
Profit for the financial year	24,933	17,922
Dividends	11,433	9,530
Amount set aside to reserves	13,500	8,392
Earnings per Ordinary share (before extraordinary items)	78.9p	61.1p
Trading profit before interest as a percentage of turnover	12.6%	10.3%

Proposed final dividend 21.75p net per share (1984 18.40p net)

The figures for the year to 31 March 1985 are abridged from the Group's full accounts for that period, which have received an unqualified auditor's opinion and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

Copies of the Preliminary Report and Chairman's Statement are available from The Secretary, De La Rue House, Burlington Gardens, London W1A 1DL.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Golden era ahead for expansion in sales of personal pensions

There is an air of restrained excitement within the financial services sector. The abolition of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps) and a switch to reliance on private pension provisions is likely to lead to more than just a new opportunity for the marketing of pension plans.

Although all the implications have yet to be worked out by the industry's actuaries and marketers, they are cautiously predicting a new era in pensions sales growth.

The number and diversity of companies offering the new-style personal pensions are certain to increase. The green paper suggests that banks, building societies and unit trusts may want to enter the market with their own schemes. But the types of institution waiting to join the action could well turn out to be more varied.

Moreover, the prospective schemes, are likely to be more varied than those now available to the self-employed which are most closely comparable to the type of private pension envisaged by Mr Fowler's proposals.

The scope for such developments will be huge. Back of envelope calculations suggest that the minimum 4 per cent of salary contributions to pension schemes laid down in the green paper for all those coming out of Serps would produce an annual premium income of about £4.5 billion.

This is a little over half the £8 billion or so at present being paid annually into occupational schemes. Taking into account higher than basic minimum payments into many personal schemes and a progressive switch by many employees from occupational to personal schemes, the size of the personal pensions market would equal that of occupational schemes within 10 years.

The possibility of institutions other than insurance companies offering pension plans was first mooted last year in Mr Fowler's consultative document on portable pensions.

The enthusiasm for this suggestion by many institutions now excluded from doing so was made clear at the time. Many of the larger building societies would certainly consider the possibility. Friendly societies, whose powers have been cut back by tax changes over the last few years, are pressing for a change in the law to allow them to offer pension schemes.

There is even the possibility that organisations such as

After earlier alarms over pension taxation, life assurance shares have boomed at the prospect of the abolition of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme. Richard Thomson looks at the potential for marketing personal pensions to the employed opened up by the green paper proposals.

trades unions might want to offer schemes.

The main obstacle facing these institutions, however, is the problem of regulation. The new legislation on investor protection going through Parliament will lay down the framework.

Other questions, such as disclosure and trust laws, will have to be dealt with in the present Social Security Bill. On top of this, the bodies regulating different parts of the savings market will then have to evolve their own prudential rules.

So, for example, before building societies or friendly societies could offer private pension schemes, the Registrar of Friendly Societies will have to establish principles about how their pensions business will relate to the rest of their activities. With this kind of complexity, the entry of new institutions into the private pensions market could take longer than many would like.

A quicker solution, however, has been found in the unit trust sector. Framlington Unit Trust Managers has started selling pension contracts, but to do so it set up its own insurance company.

Mr Tim Miller, Framlington's managing director, said: "The Government intends to make direct investment in unit trusts possible. But we still felt that setting up an insurance company was necessary because any pension investment will be hedged around with rules like those already governing insurance companies."

So it is the insurance companies and the large unit trust companies that already have an insurance arm, such as Save & Prosper, M&G, and Barclays Unicorn, which will be blazing the trails in the new marketing environment. No doubt it will take time for them to learn which ways to go, but there are some indications.

Save & Prosper has a clear view. Its sales director, Mr Tony Doggart, said: "It will

certainly affect how brokers and intermediaries will sell pensions to small and medium sized companies." Previously there was really no alternative for these companies but to use Serps.

"Now they will have to find another way. Many will welcome personal pensions as a way, for example, of attracting employees by offering to pay lump sums into his pension scheme and the like."

"With Serps, employees never really knew what their pension was worth. With the new flexible private schemes the scope for employers to use them as another form of incentive is vast."

The Save & Prosper view is that although it will be up to individuals to take out their own pension schemes, it will in fact be employers who often take the lead in directing and advising them how to do it.

Mr Doggart said: "We will be training our people particularly to sell money purchase schemes to employers."

Legal & General backs this view of company involvement. Mr Ron Spill, pensions marketing director, said: "The White Paper does not make it clear how employees will pay their share of pension contributions."

A very large number of those needing new pension plans will be people who have only been in the state scheme and have no experience of handling their own scheme.

The solution in many cases will probably be that the employer will handle all of the administrative side of it, which favours the sale of a new generation of group money purchase schemes to companies rather than separate schemes to individuals. A group scheme may diminish the employee's flexibility, but it simplifies things for him."

The Government is keen to encourage individuals to manage their own schemes, and companies like the Prudential, with its big sales force selling direct to the public, will naturally benefit. But the target market may change.

At present the largest market for private schemes is the self-employed who tend to take out pensions in their fifties. Under the new regime, ordinary employees of that age will be covered by Serps.

The bias of selling will inevitably swing towards the younger age groups, particularly those under 30 who are to have their Serps benefits frozen and will receive no extra bonus from the scheme on retirement.

COMPANY NEWS

IN BRIEF

● **BLUE CIRCLE INDUSTRIES:** The chairman, Mr John Milne, told the annual meeting that the group's United Kingdom business had recovered from a very poor performance in January and February, when it suffered from bad weather. Overseas companies had a encouraging start, particularly in Australia, New Zealand and Mexico.

● **MCCORQUODALE:** An interim dividend of 2.5p (1.96p adjusted) has been declared. With figures in 2000, results for the half-year to March 31 (comparisons restated) show sales up to 75,721 (57,368), operating profit for McCorquodale and subsidiaries 4,517 (3,307), and pretax profit 4,109 (3,172). Earnings per share rose to 8.08p (6.56p adjusted).

● **TIME PRODUCTS:** The group is paying a final dividend of 1.25p making 1.5p (1p) for the year to January 31 last. With figures in 2000, turnover was 52,279 (50,691) and pretax profit 3,098 (2,698) after finance costs 1,893 (1,810). Earnings per share were 5.07p (4.99p).

● **REEL INTERNATIONAL:** Negotiations are at an advanced stage for the sale of Arthur Sanders and Sons to West Point Pepperell, which has headquarters in Georgia. The sale will include all the wallcovering, furnishing fabric and carpet operations of Sanders and Sons, including its small activities in Canada and the United States.

● **H. P. BULMER HOLDINGS:** An agreement has been reached for the wholly-owned subsidiary, Bulmer's Australia, to acquire the business of the Perpetuum Foods group of Melbourne, comprising brands and goodwill, foodstuffs and assets and stock, for about \$55.5m cash (£7.7m).

● **ANGLO-AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA:** Results for the year ended March 31 include a final dividend of 100 South African cents (33p) against 85 cents making 135c (120c) payable on August 6. With figures in 2000, turnover was 4,311 (4,111) and pretax profit 319.1 (252.4), profit before tax 297.3 (278.4) and profit after tax 237.2 (208.0).

● **BRITANNIA SECURITY GROUP:** Following arrangements with North Atlantic Management Co., already approved by Britannia shareholders, Britannia has issued as a second tranche 245,399 ordinary shares, credited as fully paid, in Britannia to Namco at 81.5p per share, paid in full in cash subscription.

● **MORGAN COMMUNICATIONS:** Results for the year to March 31 show a final dividend of 1.5p making 2.5p (0.3p) equivalent to 1.85p had shares been publicly held for 6 years. With figures in 2000, turnover was 6,894 (4,481), pretax profit 825 (509) and tax 300 (192). Earnings per share rose to 7.31p (4.51p).

● **UKI INTERNATIONAL:** The final dividend is 3.5p making 5p (3p) for the year to March 29 (Figs in 2000). Group sales 63,779 (58,524). Group profits before tax 3,604 (2,757). This was represented as: Ophthalmic department 1,938 (1,428) and catering equipment department 1,666 (1,329), tax 680 (447), extraordinary dividend nil (200). Earnings per share before extraordinary items 20.8p (16.4p) and after extraordinary items 20.8p (15.0p). Sales in both divisions attained record levels.

● **PLYSTU:** The company has proposed a one for two scrip issue. The results are for the 52 weeks to March 31 (53 weeks). Figs in 2000, Final dividend, payable July 24 of 2.3p making 3.25p (2.7p). Turnover 27,888 (23,312) including Holland 2,926 (nil). Profit before tax 3,872 (3,307). Tax 1,561 (1,298). Extraordinary debit nil (695). Earnings per share 14.7p (12.98p).

● **BENTALL'S:** The chairman, Mr L. Edward Bentall, said at the annual meeting that sales were showing an increase of 11 per cent over last year. This, with elimination of the interest charge as a result of the sale proceeds of the former Ealing store, means that company can expect a substantial increase in first-half profits.

● **CHAPMAN INDUSTRIES:** The company is paying a final dividend of 6.1p (5.4p) for the 52 weeks to March 30, 1985. (Figs in 2000). Turnover 21,296 (15,872). Operating profit 1,337 (928). Interest 319 (105). Profit before tax 1,018 (823). Tax 345 (199). Extraordinary debts, 102 (416). Earnings per share 21.0p (23.3p). Performances from the group's paper and packaging interests were also strong.

● **NZI CORPORATION:** The group is to take a 50 per cent interest in the Melbourne unit trust manager, Brick Securities, through the Australian operating subsidiary NZI Investment Services, conditional on the approval of the Australian Government.

● **CAMBUNG VENTURE CAPITAL:** The results for 1984 show interest receivable at £39,156 and administration expenses at £51,913, tax loss was £12,757, loss per share 0.14p, and net asset value per share 3.35p. At the time of the February 1984 prospectus, the company had three investments. By end of 1984 a further six investments had been made, representing 64 per cent of the company's assets.

● **AMAL GAMATED FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS:** No dividend for the year to March 31. Turnover £169,237 (97,350). Profit on sale of investments £132,698 (64,998). After administrative expenses £76,869 (40,039). Tax £21,884 (16,315). Earnings per share 1p (0.30p).

● **FRESHBAY FOODS:** Dividend 1.1p making 1.7p (0.85p) for six months to March 31, payable on August 23. (Figures in 2000). Turnover 60,689 (47,200). Operating profit 1,320 (2,077). Interest 791 (1,143). Profit before tax 1,143 (1,978). Tax 400 (615). Extraordinary debit 419 (665). Earnings per share 2.67p (5.63p).

RUGBY UNION: 'PLAYING THE MAN' ALLEGATIONS REFUTED

England win niggly game with a hint of Hollywood

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, Invercargill

Southland..... 9
England..... 15

It was not, to be brutally honest, a good day in Invercargill.

The electricity at Rugby Park was on the blink, the plain clothes police on duty in case of anti-apartheid demonstrators were called away to a real crime, and the players had to use the referee's shower when their own hot water supply failed. England's victory, the fourth of their New Zealand tour, was also unromantic. Huw Davies kicking five penalty goals to three from Brent McKenzie.

After the match there were dark hints from Kevin Laidlaw, the former New Zealand centre and now coach to Southland, that England were more interested in playing the man than the ball, allegations instantly

Wellington (Reuter) - The New Zealand Rugby Football Union asked the High Court yesterday to strike out an action challenging the legality of its decision to send the All Blacks side to South Africa in July. The union said the action was heard tomorrow. The challenge to the tour decision was made last month by two Auckland lawyers who claimed the decision was against the union's constitution.

refuted by the tour management. So it is possible to judge what kind of match it was, even from 12,000 miles away.

Southland's history included many matches such as this, when they tear among the opposition like the wild wind which frequently rakes Invercargill having blown straight from Antarctica. Yesterday was a still, mild day made for running rugby, but England could never establish the control required to set free the midfield backs who were in the mood, in this last provincial game, to show their mettle.

It was a niggly, frustrating affair in which Freddy and Kelly became embroiled early and Hill, the chunky Bath scrum half, was lucky to escape with no more than a finger-wagging and a penalty against England after stamping on Henderson when play rolled into touch. But to suggest that only one side was involved is ludicrous because Southland's style was based upon disruption: lacking Macfie, their usual captain and tactical



Cooke (left) and Davies: two successes of the game

controller, their backs never looked good enough to create a try.

England's backs, on the other hand, did. Salmon made a delightful break early in the game and Barley moved the ball well but there was no finish on the wings. Martin is unused to playing there and lost the ball at the end of his best run while Goodwin looked short of confidence and unaware of support or the need to keep the ball alive.

Frequently on this tour England have gone into tackles and emerged without the ball because it is a tactic among the opposition to aim to knock the ball from the gpp. At worst it earns a scrum, at best the chance to counter when the attacking side is off balance and yesterday England's back row fell foul of the same play.

On the credit side, both locks played well, dominating the lineout and contributing manfully in the loose. Metcalfe, too, at full back, did nothing wrong but in both areas the selectors are unlikely to change their minds for the international side. The scrum works better with Orwin partnering Bainbridge or Dooley and Orwin is as good a ball handler as the Preston Grasshopper, who will doubtless be unlucky once more this Saturday.

Martin Green, the coach, was championing at the bit because of the lack of support play in the loose, a feature of the game against Otago and, to a lesser extent, last Saturday's international. That was partly because such substantial performers as Kelly and Byrne, who was heroic for his team, got in the way and Hini, the scrum

half, varying his play sensibly. The skills of the Invercargill pipe band had barely died away when Davies posted the first points for offside against Southland's backs. Brent McKenzie, younger brother of Gordon, the lock, levelled after Rees failed to release the ball and gave his side a brief lead after illegal use of the elbows at a lineout. It was 6-6 at the interval and shortly after England missed the best chance of a try after Metcalfe failed to hold a difficult pass at the end of a move which covered 70 metres and featured Barley, Goodwin (twice) and Cooke.

England regained the lead after what the locals described as "a bit of Hollywood" from Martin, who made something of a meal of a late tackle then bounced gymnastically to his feet once the whistle had gone. The penalty award was correct, however, and Davies kicked the goal. McKenzie's third success, all penalty just, crept over before Davies brought a measure of relief. Since he has founded the UTT Club (unbeaten Tuesday team), it was fitting that Davies should have the final word. He frequently does.

SCORERS: Southland: Penalties: B McKenzie (5). England: Penalties: Davies (3). **SOUTHLAND:** B McKenzie; A Monaghan, P Laidlaw, J Chittock, W Molloy, M Brown, Hini, P Goodwin, B Metcalfe, K Kelly, P Henderson, B McKenzie, A Byrne, D Kelly (captain), T Bokser. **ENGLAND:** J Metcalfe (Mossley); J Goodwin (Mossley), B Barley (Wells), M Green (Gloucester), R Hill (Bath), M Preece (Gloucester), A Simpson (Aston), A Sheppard (Bristol), D O'Shea (Harlequins), captain, D Dooley (Preston Grasshoppers), S Bainbridge (Fylde), G Rees (Nottingham), R Hefford (Gloucester), Referee: C Dainty (Wellington).

Long looks the best chance for Britain

Thirteen boys and 11 girls have been named in Britain's team to compete in the European Junior Championships in Geneva from July 25-28. Zee Long, aged 14, Britain's youngest Olympic competitor, looks the best medal hope in both individual medley events.

BOYS: 100 metres freestyle: M Foster, R Troup (both 14), 200 metres freestyle: C McNeil (14), M Foster (14), 400 metres freestyle: G Cumbers (14), 800 metres freestyle: G Cumbers (14), 1500 metres freestyle: G Cumbers (14), 200 metres breaststroke: R Hargrove (14), 400 metres breaststroke: R Hargrove (14), 800 metres breaststroke: R Hargrove (14), 1500 metres breaststroke: R Hargrove (14), 200 metres butterfly: R Hargrove (14), 400 metres butterfly: R Hargrove (14), 800 metres butterfly: R Hargrove (14), 1500 metres butterfly: R Hargrove (14), 200 metres individual medley: A Kelly (14), 400 metres individual medley: A Kelly (14), 800 metres individual medley: A Kelly (14), 1500 metres individual medley: A Kelly (14), 200 metres relay: R Hargrove, M Foster, R Troup, Wight, 4x200 metres relay: R Hargrove, M Foster, Wight, McNeil.

GIRLS: 100 metres freestyle: G Nislin (14), 200 metres freestyle: G Nislin (14), 400 metres freestyle: G Nislin (14), 800 metres freestyle: G Nislin (14), 1500 metres freestyle: G Nislin (14), 200 metres breaststroke: J Wood (14), 400 metres breaststroke: J Wood (14), 800 metres breaststroke: J Wood (14), 1500 metres breaststroke: J Wood (14), 200 metres butterfly: M O'Farrell (14), 400 metres butterfly: M O'Farrell (14), 800 metres butterfly: M O'Farrell (14), 1500 metres butterfly: M O'Farrell (14), 200 metres individual medley: R Long, 400 metres individual medley: R Long, 800 metres individual medley: R Long, 1500 metres individual medley: R Long, 200 metres relay: R Long, M O'Farrell, Wight, 4x200 metres relay: R Long, M O'Farrell, Wight, McNeil.

RUGBY LEAGUES: The brilliant Australia rugby union fly-half Mark Ellis, aged 22, has been named in the team to sign a lucrative rugby league contract, his manager said today.

The former Australian rugby player received an offer from the leading Sydney club, St George, which includes outside sponsorship interests.

MOTOR RACING
Tyrrell car in trials

The eagerly awaited Tyrrell-Renault 014 grand prix car was given its initial trials at Silverstone yesterday, when Martin Brundle and Stefan Belloff drove the team's first turbo-charged Formula One car in private tests (John Blunden writes).

The car's race debut will be in the French Grand Prix at Le Mans on July 7, when it will be driven by Brundle. The 26-year-old Kings Lynn driver will also be at the wheel for the Marlboro British Grand Prix at Silverstone on July 21, after which Belloff will take over the new car for the German and Austrian races.

The new Tyrrell is the work of the team's chief designer, Maurice Philippe, who has used a combination of Courtauld's carbon-fibre and aluminium honeycomb materials to build a very stiff but lightweight monocoque structure.

Law Report June 5 1985 Court of Appeal

Parent can falsely imprison child

Regina v Rahman
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Glidewell and Mr Justice Kennedy
[Judgment delivered May 23]

A father who attempted to take his teenage daughter back to her country of origin (Bangladesh) against her wishes could be guilty of false imprisonment if the restraint consisted in the unlawful restraint of a victim's freedom of movement, and where a parent restrained a child's freedom of movement that would amount to unlawful imprisonment if the restraint was unlawful; that unlawful restraint was not limited to cases where the parent's act was directed against the other parent or another person who had legal rights in relation to the child, but it included cases where the parent's conduct was an unreasonable exercise of parental rights.

The Court of Appeal so held in the Regina v Rahman case, a case against a father who had taken his 17-year-old daughter to Bangladesh against her wishes. The father was charged with kidnapping and false imprisonment. The father was charged with kidnapping and false imprisonment. The father was charged with kidnapping and false imprisonment.

Mr John Platt-Mills, QC and Mr M. A. Syed assisted by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr T. F. H. Cassel for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant's daughter came to England with her mother and father and was about two. Her mother returned to Bangladesh after a short time, and the girl was fostered out by her father with the consent and assistance of the local authority. When she was 14 or 15 she was about to sit some mock O level examinations and was anxious to take those papers.

On the morning of January 11, 1983 she was on her way to school on foot when she was approached by her father. She turned away from him, whereupon he grabbed hold of her and pushed her into a car where there were two other passengers.

HERTSHER BOROUGH COUNCIL v ALAN DUNN BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD
Before Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice Tudor Evans
[Judgment delivered May 24]

The failure of builders to notify a local authority within specified time limits of the commencement and completion of certain works of construction, in breach of regulations 10 and 11 of the Building Regulations (SI 1976 No 1676) and contrary to section 4(6) of the Public Health Act 1936, were offences which were completed when the periods for compliance specified in the regulations expired.

Accordingly, by virtue of section 127 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, justices had no power to try information in respect of alleged breaches which had been laid against the builders more than

she was told she was going to be taken to Bangladesh by her father in order to visit her sick grandmother (whom she did not know). She struggled and the appellant slapped her on the face and she screamed for help out of the car window, and some policemen came.

Everyone went to the police station, where the appellant was searched; two airline tickets to Dhaka were found in a return ticket for himself and a single for his daughter, also some valium tablets (which he admitted he had in order to give to his daughter to calm her down) and the girl's Bangladesh passport.

Asked to account for his actions, the appellant admitted that he was wrong to have taken his daughter as he did, but insisted that he had the right to do so because he was her father and she was entitled to take her to Bangladesh.

Originally the indictment contained two counts, the first alleging that the appellant had kidnapped his daughter. At the time the decision of the Court of Appeal in *R v Rahman* (1984) 78 Cr App R 187 had been published, which was to the effect, *inter alia*, that a parent could not be convicted of the offence of kidnapping where the child was taken unaccompanied and under the age of 18.

The Crown, therefore, decided that they could not proceed on the kidnapping charge, and a verdict of not guilty was accordingly entered on that count. That decision was plainly correct at that time.

The trial of the second count, of false imprisonment, then proceeded as far as the close of the prosecution case when Mr Platt-Mills submitted that there was no case to answer. His submissions were based primarily, although not entirely, upon the Court of Appeal decision in *D and M* and the fact that the appellant was not a parent.

The judge, after lengthy argument on both sides, rejected the submission of no case and indicated that the case should continue. The appellant then expressed his wish, indicated expressly that he intended to change his plea. Accordingly the indictment was put to him again and he pleaded guilty to false imprisonment.

SIX MONTHS after the respective periods for compliance.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, dismissing Hertsmere Borough Council's appeal against the decision of South Mimms Justices sitting at Barnet on March 28, 1984, that they had no jurisdiction to hear 23 informations laid by the local authority on November 18, 1983 against Alan Dunn Building Contractors Ltd, in respect of their alleged failure to comply with regulations A10 and A11 on May 20, 1983.

Mr Duncan Ouseley for the local authority; Mr Bruce Stuart for the builders.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that by May 18, 1983, more than six months before the informations were laid, the builders had completed works of construction to which regulations A10 and A11 of the 1976 regulations applied. It was alleged that they had failed

Since then the House of Lords had reversed the Court of Appeal's decision in *D*. The two points of law which were certified in that case were: (a) Whether the common law offence of kidnapping exists in the case of a child victim under the age of 14 years; and (b) whether in any circumstances a parent may be convicted of such an offence where the child victim is unmarried and under the age of majority.

The Court of Appeal held that the answers to both these points should be in the negative. In the House of Lords the leading speech was that of Lord Brandon, answering the questions in the affirmative. All their Lordships agreed with Lord Brandon's speech, with the exception of Lord Bridge of Harwich, who had one small reservation to make.

It was now submitted that the appellant's conviction should be quashed on the basis that false imprisonment could not be committed by a parent on a child except by order or by agreement or by contravention of a lawful order of a competent court restricting his parental rights, or perhaps was acting in contravention of the lawful rights of the other parent.

That was based upon the speech of Lord Bridge in *D* where he said at p 797: "My reservation related to the issue raised by the second certified question... For my part, I should have preferred to answer 'Yes, when the parents act in contravention of order of a court of competent jurisdiction restricting his or her parental rights'."

"I should make it clear that my proposed answer to the second question is by no means intended to imply a concluded opinion that there are no other circumstances in which a parent may be convicted of kidnapping his or her own child."

Whether there may be such other circumstances and if so whether they are capable of limitation or definition are difficult questions... In my respectful opinion, it would be prudent to indicate expressly that the present decision of your Lordships' House does not purport, even by way of *obiter dictum*, to pre-empt the answer to either of those questions.

There were many ways in which the prosecution might prove unlawful. The existence of a court order might be one way, by showing that parental control had by order been given to someone other than the parent, and that a victim's freedom of movement from a particular place; in other words, it was unlawful detention which stopped the victim from moving away as he or she would wish to move.

It hardly needed stating that a parent would very seldom be guilty of the offence of false imprisonment in relation to his or her child. The sort of restriction imposed upon children was usually well within the norms of reasonable parental discipline and was, therefore, not unlawful.

There were, however, other ways of proving unlawfulness. The detention might be for such a period as to be unreasonable, or in such circumstances as to be out of the realm of reasonable parental discipline. Whether that stage had been reached, namely the stage of unreasonableness, was a matter for the jury and it was evidence which it was for the jury to consider.

In their Lordships' judgment the trial judge would have been correct in refusing to stop this case if he had known the law as expounded by the House of Lords in *D*.

It was for the jury to say whether they felt sure that what the appellant did was outside the bounds of legitimate parental discipline and correction. There was certainly evidence upon which they could have come to that conclusion. The plea of guilty was, therefore, not based on any wrong decision of law and the appeal against conviction should accordingly be dismissed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

They should be left for decision if and when they arise."

What had to be proved in order to bring home a charge of false imprisonment? False imprisonment consisted in the unlawful and intentional or recklessness restraint of a victim's freedom of movement from a particular place; in other words, it was unlawful detention which stopped the victim from moving away as he or she would wish to move.

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Solicitors: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

Children District Council (1983) 2 AC 120, 127 gave guidance in which was of general application. The following points could be extracted from Lord Roskill's speech: first, adapting

TENNIS: CHRIS LLOYD TOO WISE FOR SCHOOLGIRL OPPONENT

McEnroe bakes in the sun as he roasts Nystrom

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Paris.

John McEnroe, last year's runner-up, recovered from 1-3 down in the fifth set to beat Joakim Nystrom, 6-7, 6-2, 6-2, 3-6, 7-5 in the French championships yesterday. The temperature hovered hazily between 102°F and 104°F and the match lasted 3hr 32min. As McEnroe said later: "It had about everything you could ask for from a clay court match, the physical and the mental."

The heat and humidity were awful. The match was gruelling enough to watch; goodness knows what it was like to play. The sweat that poured out of McEnroe and Nystrom would have filled a bucket. McEnroe wore an improvised bandana, that, from the look of it, was probably borrowed from his girlfriend.

Nystrom, who is 6ft 2in tall but weighs only 11 stone was wet through (which he was), seemed to become more spindly as the match progressed. It would have been no surprise to see steam rising from the coagulated sweat which looked like deep, ridiculously overstocked flower beds.

Eventually, McEnroe was grateful to the citizens of Paris. "I'm disappointed that I played well for a couple of sets but couldn't continue that," he said, "but you have to give him (Nystrom) credit. He mixed it up and played very well. I felt a let-down after the third set but at the end it was like getting a second wind. The crowd helped me when I was down."

Nystrom had won his only previous match with McEnroe this year. That was indoors. This time they were playing on Nystrom's best surface. Moreover, on American has won the men's title here since 1955, and the United States' domestic preferences are shifting from shale to hard courts, which means that mainland Europe is becoming increasingly alien to McEnroe and compatriots. All that was far from encouraging for McEnroe.

There has been evidence, too, that after two hours or so of hard labour with a clay-court expert, to hot weather, McEnroe's mind and muscles begin to protest.

So it was yesterday. McEnroe served for the first set at 5-3 but scored only one point in the tie-break, which ended with a double-fault. Then he played two superb sets illuminated by his powers of anticipation, his swift grasp of tactics, and the perfection of his timing. Nystrom looked in a lower class yet remained inscrutably pliant. But the two hours were up and one popped a question mark in the notebook. Nystrom took a 3-0 lead in the fourth set, won it, then led 3-1 in the fifth. McEnroe's girlfriend, by the way, was wearing black.

At times McEnroe was clearly in torment. There were anguished yells and despondently frustrated poses. He even

shouted down the court towards the VIP seats, hinting (as only McEnroe can hint) that peripheral chit-chat was unwelcome. But was Nystrom good enough to put McEnroe away? Not quite.

McEnroe broke back with one of the greatest running forehands he has ever hit. He was serving at 5-3 and 30-0, survived a break point, and had a match-point - which Nystrom saved with an astonishing backhand service return down the line. "That was a hell of a shot," McEnroe said later. Still in a state of shock, McEnroe lost the game with a double-fault. Nystrom held his service to love.

That was 5-5. But McEnroe won his next service game, then broke through for the match by exploiting a sudden weakness in Nystrom's backhand. As a last Swedish backhand went out, McEnroe punched the air and seemed likely to explode with joy. All things considered, this had been quite a performance.

Chris Lloyd, who found herself sharing the bottom half of the draw with three teenagers, has a 6-4, 6-0 win against the only one who speaks the same language. Terry Phelps of New York. As a schoolgirl, the long-legged Miss Phelps was not out of the track. This became evident yesterday when she swiftly turned a few Lloyd drop shots into Phelps winners.

It was even more relevant that for the first time, Miss Phelps was playing a quarter-final on the centre court against somebody special ("I grew up idolizing Chris"). Miss Phelps varied her game sensibly, hit some spectacular backhands down the line, and had four break points for 5-5.

But Mrs Lloyd was not only wiser, she was also bolder and dider in hitting closer to the lines and more subtle in her variations of pace and length. The rallies were seldom exciting. There was time to note that the otherwise smartly dressed lady umpire had donned sunglasses and a cap. The French tend to be chic. They also tend to be practical.

Women's singles
QUARTER-FINALS: C Lloyd (US) vs T Phelps (US) 6-0, 6-0.

Women's doubles
QUARTER-FINALS: C Kondo-Kitch (US) and H Salovey (US) vs P Borge (US) and A Williams (US) 6-1, 6-2.

Men's doubles
QUARTER-FINALS: M Edmondson and K Mayotte (US) vs P Borge (US) and A Williams (US) 6-1, 6-2.

Men's singles
QUARTER-FINALS: J McEnroe (US) vs J Nystrom (SWE) 6-7, 6-2, 6-2, 3-6, 7-5.

Mixed doubles
THIRD ROUND: J Jordan (US) and H Gaudin (SWE) vs P Borge (US) and A Williams (US) 6-1, 6-2.



Potter smashes to victory over Rene Uys. Photograph: Chris Cole

When loss of timing proved costly

By David Powell

Stuart Bale lost his sense of timing yesterday. On court at the Kenilworth Tennis Tournament in Beckenham he played too many shots too early and was beaten in the first round by an opponent more than 100 places beneath him in the world rankings. It was hardly the best way to celebrate his inclusion for the first time in Britain's Davis Cup squad.

Chris Stansbury, an American, who had not competed on grass since Bale put him out of the Australian Open five months ago, won 6-4, 6-7, 7-6. Bale may yet be asked to play second singles to Stephen Shaw in Nottingham next week, but like Shaw, who on Monday also surprisingly lost to a more lowly ranked opponent, his will to win seemed lukewarm.

Americans do not easily stand out as individuals in the crowd at Beckenham where they make up more than half of the draw. Stansbury is an exception. Standing 6ft 5in and wearing yellow and turquoise he served ruthlessly in the deciding tie-break to earn a second round match against Tim Mayotte. Stansbury has yet to record a notable win in his career but all that will change if he beats Mayotte.

Three times a Wimbledon quarter finalist, Mayotte is a grass court player of rare excellence. Before thunderstorms brought play to a premature close there was

Men's singles
FIRST ROUND: P Fleming (US) vs B Buffington (US) 6-3, 6-2. S Shaw (US) vs C Hony (SA) 6-4, 6-4. C Stansbury (US) vs S Bale (UK) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6. S Denton (US) vs J Fitzgerald (UK) 7-6, 7-6, 7-6.

Women's singles
FIRST ROUND: A Golder (US) vs M Chalkin (US) 6-4, 6-4.

Women's doubles
SECOND ROUND: A Hovindson (US) vs M Gaudin (SWE) 6-2, 6-4. P Potter (US) vs R Uys (SA) 7-6, 6-2.

ATP RANKINGS (US unless stated): 1, J McEnroe; 2, Lendl; 3, J Connors; 4, M Wilander; 5, A Gomez; 6, A Aguiar; 7, J Krieger; 8, P Cauthery; 9, J Mayotte; 10, S Denton; 11, Y Noth; 12, A Krieger; 13, J Krieger; 14, T Smith (CZ).

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Argentina vie with England for last place among seeds

From Stuart Jones Football Correspondent, Mexico City

England and Argentina, so often rivals in the past, are in direct conflict for the last place among the top six seeds in the World Cup finals here next summer.

The other five top teams have been determined, but England and Argentina, who met in the World Cup quarter-finals in 1966 and 1978 respectively, hold an equal claim to the one vacancy among the elite.

The organizing committee, aware of the foul reputation of England's followers and also of the memory of the Falklands war, will use its power to allow Argentina to be drawn in the same group.

When the draw is made here on December 14, a source closely connected to the Mexican organizing committee said that the hosts will lead the group that play the first-round matches in the capital city and in Toluca, Italy, as holders, have chosen to stay in Puebla.

Brazil, the nation with the finest record in the competition, will be in Group A, followed by Germany, the beaten finalists in 1982 will be in the group that travels between Queretaro and Nezahualcoyotl.

The Germans will be relieved to hear that the venue is to be known as Neza for short. Uruguay, the only certain South American qualifiers so far, will be included among the top seeds on the basis that they have won the tournament twice.

The suggestion is that Uruguay will be located in Irapuato and Leon, which lies to one of the hottest parts of the country and where England lost their 1966 quarter-final to West Germany in 1970. It is likely, therefore, that England, assuming they reach the finals, would be stationed in Monterrey.

Also, Bobby Robson, the England manager, will be delighted. Monterrey, a heavy industrial city that resembles Bilbao, where England is estimated at one million pounds, including a proposed new visitors stand seating 400 to improve crowd security. The club will receive some financial help from the Football Grounds Improvement Trust.

Liverpool Football Club were still optimistic yesterday that two proposed charity matches in West Germany in August would go ahead despite reports that their presence was not wanted. The UEFA ban on English clubs competing abroad is confined to competitive under UEFA's jurisdiction. It is up to the host country to decide upon invitations to foreign clubs for tours and non-competitive matches. Liverpool are due to play Borussia Munster Gladbach in aid of members of an RAF hand killed in Germany in 1945.

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Chaplin's Club can carry on good work for Chapman

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Moving the Diomed Stakes to Friday and tinkering with the conditions of the Great Surrey Stakes has done absolutely nothing towards improving today's supporting programme. Hills Bid, who won his last race at Haydock Park very easily indeed, can initiate a first and last race double for Barry Hills, his trainer, by winning the Woodcote Stakes. The double should be completed in style by the Jubilee Stakes runner-up, Fandango Beat, in the Craven Handicap.

Hills is also hopeful of a good run from Hollywood Party in the Silver Seal Stakes, but here I prefer Steve Norton's in-form four-year-old, Estoc, who finished with great gusto to win his last race at Newbury as well as the one before that at Haydock. Chapman's Club, my selection for the Solar Stakes, is trained by David Chapman, who

achieved public acclaim a couple of seasons back with his expert handling of that fast filly, Sobas. He is also doing well with Chapman's Club as the horse's recent record suggests. Last year Chapman's Club went through the season without a win to his name, but he has won three of his six races since he came to Chapman's stable.

If Slip Anchor wins the big race, his stable companion, Lyphard Chimes, a recent easy Haydock winner, should put the finishing touches to a perfect day for Henry Cecil, their trainer, by winning the Jubilee Stakes at Ripon, where Celtic Heat is fancied to follow his recent Redcar victory.

At Carlisle, Bill Watts looks the trainer to follow, with Handspun (2.15) and Handcap (3.45) both catching the eye.

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PASTORAL MEASURE 1983

The Church Commissioners have approved a Draft Pastoral Scheme providing for the appropriation of certain benefices to the Diocese of Old Chapel, later in use as a Senate and Canon's Residence, to be known as the Diocese of Old Chapel.

It is hereby notified that the said scheme has been approved by the Church Commissioners and that the same will come into effect from 1st January 1984. In whom any communications should be made to the Secretary of the publication of this Notice.

CHARITY COMMISSIONS

General Charity - Eva Henshaw Charity

The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for the transfer of Copies of the General Charity to the Eva Henshaw Charity. The copies are now being collected from their respective donors. Donors may wish to return their copies to the Charity Commission, 59 Whitehall, London SW1A 2HQ. Collections and suggestions must be sent no later than one month from today.

TICES

...said Petition will be
of such person permitted

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5th March 1985. **NEVILLE EGGLEY,**
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